Archie® VS. PREDATOR™

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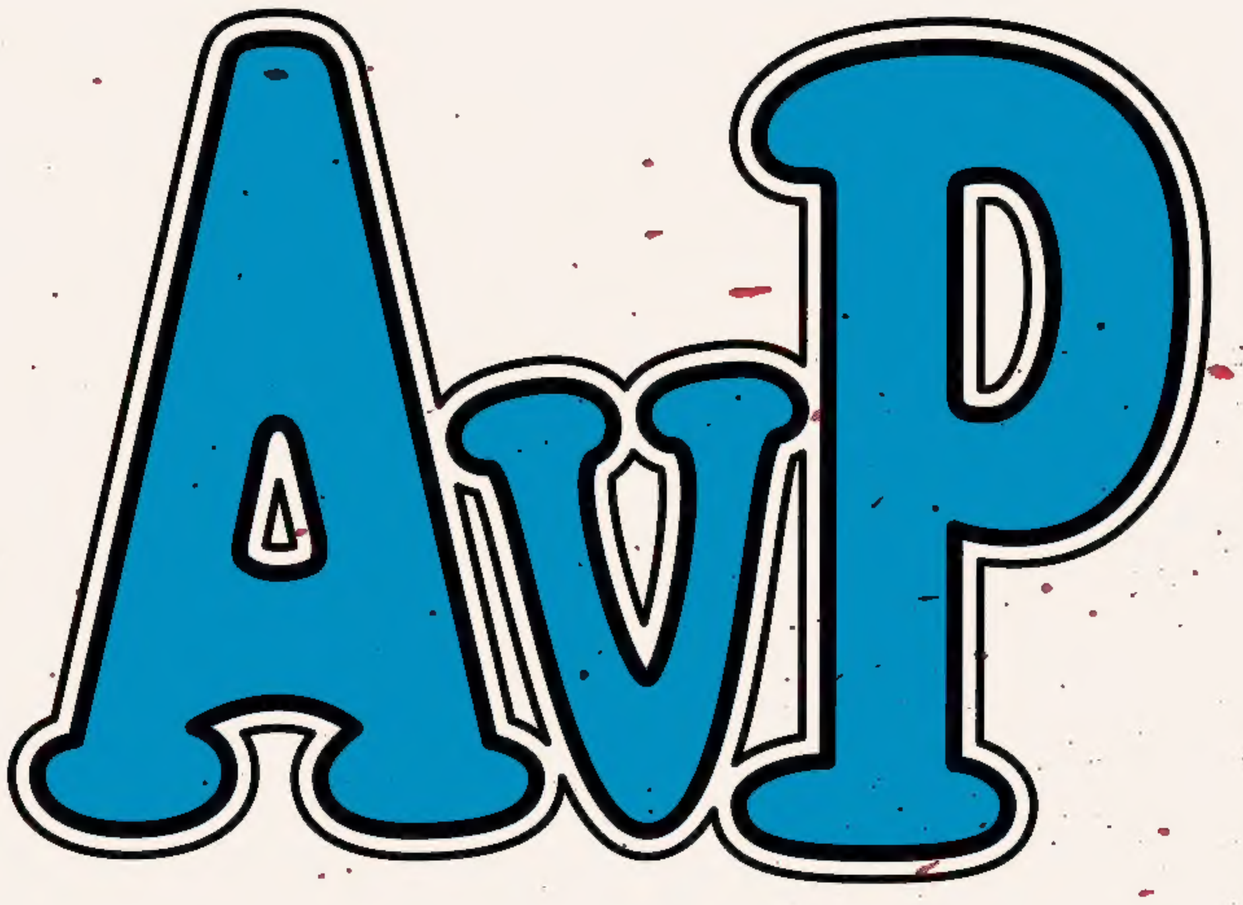
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Archie® vs. Predator™

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Cover
FERNANDO RUIZ WITH **JASON MILLET**

Chapter Breaks

CHAPTER 1 **FERNANDO RUIZ** AND **RICH KOSLOWSKI** WITH **JASON MILLET**

CHAPTER 2 **DAN PARENT** WITH **JASON MILLET**

CHAPTER 3 **GISÈLE** WITH **MARÍA VICTORIA ROBADO**

CHAPTER 4 **ANDREW PEPOY** WITH **JASON MILLET**

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Introduction

BY ROBERTO AGUIRRE-SACASA

I can't quite believe the book you're holding in your hands exists, but then again, it's 2015 as I write these words, and now more than ever, Archie is everywhere, doing everything, meeting everyone. Not always surviving the encounter.

In the last year alone, a grown-up version of Archie took a bullet for his pal Kevin Keller in *Life with Archie*—and died. In *Afterlife with Archie*, a different, teenage Archie leads his ever-dwindling gang of pals and gals through post-zombie-apocalypse America—and he may or may not die. In another incarnation, by Mark Waid and Fiona Staples, Archie's been gloriously reborn, still seventeen—forever—but now hot enough that the love triangle makes a terrible, beautiful, inevitable kind of sense. In a week or so, he'll be fighting a tornado of flying sharks (#sharknado).

But still. *Archie vs. Predator*?

Where does the story behind this particular story begin?

I guess with *Archie Meets the Punisher*, which Marvel and Archie copublished in 1994, and which continues to be one of the most iconic comic books *ever*. On some level, so perverse, so aberrant, you can't quite believe the Powers That Be (at Marvel! at Archie!) let it happen. But they did, by God, and it was weird, and it was wonderful, and it was controversial, and it was absolutely sensational . . .

. . . and a proud tradition of Archie meeting unlikely characters from other universes ensued: *Archie Meets . . . fill in the blank*. Like *Mad Libs*. The crazier, the better.

Cut to *Archie Meets KISS*, which my friend (and one of my coconspirators at Archie Comic Publications) Alex Segura wrote. It inspired *Archie Meets Glee*, which *I* wrote, fulfilling a true lifelong dream of writing these characters I grew up reading (and still read). A funny thing about *Archie Meets Glee*, however: those two universes—though one was a comic book universe and one was a television universe—fit together so perfectly that it felt almost like a "normal" Archie story. Some teen high jinks, some music, some dating, some gags. It wasn't that weird combination of the sacred and the profane that gave *Archie Meets the Punisher* and *Archie Meets KISS* such a beating, throbbing pulse.

So when Archie held its first creative summit, in the sleepy town of Mamaroneck, in Westchester County, New York, and the subject of what our next *Archie Meets* should be came up, we started spitballing the most incongruous pairings. A lot of interesting possibilities were blue-skied that day, but none had the elemental, primal, visceral, immediate force of . . . *Archie Meets Predator*. It's what everyone around that table seized on, though we all agreed: *surely there was no way it would actually happen*. Publisher and co-CEO of ACP Jon Goldwater laughed: "Never say never," a mantra that has served us well at Archie over the years.

People called people. People e-mailed people. And very quickly, the nice, messed-up folks at Dark Horse Comics were like, "We are *so* into this idea! And somehow, Fox has agreed!" With similar speed, it was decided that rather than go dark and serious and tortured with this series—like, say, *Afterlife with Archie* or *Chilling Adventures of Sabrina*—what would make *Archie vs. Predator* even *more* insane and fun was if it were written and drawn in the "traditional" Archie house style.

That, as it turned out, was a stroke of brilliance.

Brendan Wright would run point on the Dark Horse side of things. Alex de Campi would write it. And one of my favorite Archie artists of all time, Fernando Ruiz (I still owe you for that picture you drew of Archie and the gang as the cast of *American Psycho*, Fernando!), would pencil it. I, for reasons I'm still struggling to understand, would run point on the Archie side of things with my pal Alex Segura.

We pitched ideas back and forth—how these characters could be brought together (Spring Break!), how their separate mythologies could be honored and expanded, who would be killed, who our hero would be—that was my favorite part, not gonna lie. (Being the person who had to pour cold water on Alex's more outlandish gags and jokes . . . not so much.) I don't wish I'd written this book—well, maybe a little—because honestly, when I take a good, long, hard look at myself in the mirror, I just don't believe I'm twisted enough to have written it—that's high praise for Alex's bizarre, almost Dadaist script. Thanks, Alex.

Thank you, Fox, for letting our icons play with your icons for four gonzo/bonkers/*why-didn't-I-think-of-that?* issues. Thank you, Brendan, for ruling with a steady—but never annoying or joy-killing—hand.

And thank you, Fernando, for proving that some things never go out of style. You drew a gorgeous book, one for the ages.

Archie Andrews is American pop culture boiled down into one indestructible (no matter how many times he dies), fun-loving, girl-chasing, alien-fighting, chillaxing-with-his-bros kind of guy. May he be *Meet*ing and *Versus*ing other unlikely characters for the next seventy-five years—and beyond.

Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa
Archie Comics, Chief Creative Officer

RUIZ KOSLOWSKI

Chapter 1

MMF!
MAYBE WE COULD GO TUBING?
WE DID THAT *LAST* YEAR.
CAN WE DO SOMETHING WHERE I DON'T HAVE TO GET MY HAIR WET?
LOOK, CHERYL, IT'S THE *PUBLIC SCHOOL* KIDS.
RIVERDALE HIGH SCHOOL
HAPPY SPRING BREAK!
GOT ANY PLANS FOR SPRING BREAK, PROLES?
JASON AND I ARE GOING YACHTING IN THE CARIBBEAN!
THERE'S *SUCH A HEAT WAVE.*
I'M GOING TO COME BACK SO TAN, I'LL NEED A WHOLE NEW WARDROBE!
POP
UM...
WELL, WE, *UH...*
WE'RE CONSIDERING SEVERAL ALTERNATIVES.
LET ME GUESS. TUBING, CAMPING, OR THE OUTLET MALL. *THRILLING.*
ACTUALLY...
...WE'RE ALL GOING ON A LUXURY BEACH VACATION, COURTESY OF *TAYTO-CHIPS!*
OH, JUGGIE!
YOU WIN!
THAT'S MY PAL!
1

WELCOME TO BEAUTIFUL LOS PERDIDOS RESORT!
OOOH!
WOW! THIS IS THE MOST PERFECT BEACH I'VE EVER SEEN!
IN FACT... *EVERYTHING'S* PERFECT!
WE ARE GOING TO HAVE THE BEST SPRING BREAK *EVER!*
WHEW, IT'S HOT.
ARE THOSE *MANGO TREES?*
UNNGH.
DUTCH'S BEACH BAR
SGT. CROC
I AM SORRY, MR. JUGHEAD. IT IS NOT ADVISABLE TO GO INTO THE JUNGLE...
...UNLESS YOU WANT TO BE DINNER FOR A JAGUAR!
OH, MY!
2
3

OH, VERONICA, ISN'T THIS PLACE AMAZING?

IT'LL DO.

AT LAST.

KLUNK

I HOPE THERE'S SOMETHING TO DO HERE.

I'LL BE BORED OUT OF MY MIND, SITTING ON A BEACH FOR A WEEK.

RONNIE, AREN'T YOU FORGETTING MY TIP?

OH, YES. SILLY ME. HERE'S YOUR TIP, REGGIE BABY!

NEVER WEAR WHITE AFTER LABOR DAY!

SLAM!

÷SIGH!÷

DUTCH'S

WHAT'S WRONG, DILTON? YEARBOOK EDITING STILL STRESSING YOU OUT?

THE DEADLINE IS *TWO DAYS* AFTER WE GET BACK! I BROUGHT MY LAPTOP SO I COULD DO LAYOUTS, BUT I HAVEN'T ORGANIZED *ANY* OF THE POLLS.

POLLS?

YOU KNOW. MOST LIKELY TO SUCCEED...

...CUTEST COUPLE, TEACHER'S PET, MOST POPULAR...

...BEST DRESSED...

SQUEE!

OH, NO.

DILTON, DON'T WORRY! WE CAN HELP YOU DO THE POLLS WHILE YOU'RE HERE!

AW, ARCHIE, WOULDJA?

THEN I COULD GET SOME VACATION TIME TOO!

HEY, REGGIE, HOW'D IT GO WITH VERONICA?

HOW DO YOU THINK IT WENT?

NO CHICK CAN RESIST THE REGSTER. I'M A GOSH-DARN SEXUAL TYRAN-NOSAUR...!

TINY APPENDAGES, VERY NOISY, AND HEADED FOR EXTINCTION?

SOUNDS ABOUT RIGHT.

WOW, YOU GUYS DON'T KNOW WHAT A WEIGHT YOU'VE TAKEN OFF MY MIND!

NO PROBLEM, DILTON!

G'NIGHT, SPECS!

FINALLY, BEAUTIFUL, WE CAN BE ...ALONE.

KA CHAK!

OH, GORGEOUS, I CAN'T WAIT TO PRESS MYSELF AGAINST YOUR BIG APERTURE.

YES...

YES!

VERONICA! LOOK!

HEY, GUYS! COME QUICK!

I SAY, CHERYL!

LOOK AT THAT!

WHEN YOU WISH UPON A STAR

A MEMORABLE HOLIDAY.

ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT BUFFET.

ARCHIE.

FLAWLESS VICTORY.

THIRD BASE.

DEATH TO THE PROLE-TARIAT.

'MORNING, RIVERDALE. DID YOU MISS US?

WE THOUGHT WE'D STOP OFF AND CHECK OUT YOUR LITTLE ECONO LODGE HERE. IT'S SO *QUAINT.*

UGH!

ACTUALLY, CHERYL...

...WE'RE REALLY BUSY THIS MORNING.

WAFFLES!

US, TOO, OLD CHAP. THAT VOLCANO HAS A *FABULOUS* LITTLE PRE-COLUMBIAN SHRINE TO THE LOCAL JAGUAR GODDESS, AND I RATHER FANCY A SOUVENIR!

WHAT ON *EARTH* COULD *YOU* PEOPLE HAVE TO DO TODAY?

WHY, JUST A LITTLE OLD POPULARITY CONTEST!

HOW TEDIOUS. WE ALREADY *KNOW* WE'RE THE MOST POPULAR AT OUR SCHOOL.

OFF TO THE VOLCANO. TOODLES!

BETTY, WHAT HAPPENED?

CHERYL AND JASON HAPPENED. THEN VERONICA DID.

VERRRONICA.

WAAAAFFLES.

ALL THE MORE REASON TO GET STARTED WITH THE YEARBOOK POLLS!

HOW ABOUT IT, LADIES? READY FOR A BEST-DRESSED FASHION SHOW?

OHMIGOD! YES!

BORN READY, DARLING.

BRING IT.

=SIGH= I THINK I'LL SIT THIS ONE OUT.

SET PHASERS TO STUNNING!

BE BACK IN TEN IN YOUR BEST OUTFITS, GALS!

AND REMEMBER... FOR US, BEST DRESSED MEANS *LEAST* DRESSED.

REGGIE, NOT COOL.

THEY REALLY THINK THEY CAN WIN? BLESS.

SHINY.

I WONDER WHAT ETHEL IS UP TO...?

MAYBE WE CAN GO FOR A SWIM--

DAAAARLING.

HAVE YOU CONSIDERED THAT THE NATURAL LOOK ISN'T REALLY WORKING FOR YOU?

YOU SAW HOW YOUR ARCHIE WAS STARING AT VERONICA... DON'T **YOU** WANT TO BE STARED AT LIKE THAT?

YOU CAN BORROW ANYTHING YOU LIKE FOR THE CONTEST, BETTY.

I'M **HAPPY** TO HELP.

CHERYL, IT WOULD BE A COLD DAY IN HECK BEFORE YOU HELPED ANYONE AT RIVERDALE. WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS?

BECAUSE VERONICA LODGE NEEDS TO BE TAUGHT A LESSON!

NOW SHUT UP AND PUT ON THE CHANIL!

NO.

SHALLOW POPULARITY GIMMICKS AND SKIMPY OUTFITS ARE **NOT** WHO I AM!

PITY.

SCORES, PLEASE, FOR MISS VERONICA LODGE IN VERSAYCE.

AND THAT'S A PERFECT SCORE FROM EVERYONE EXCEPT THE EAST GERMAN JUDGE, WHO--

SHE'S NICE, BUT SHE'S NOT MY MIDGE.

IT LOOKS LIKE WE HAVE A WINNER!

AHEM.

10

10

10

6

10

10

I CHANGED MY MIND.

CAN I STILL COMPETE?

BETTY!

BETTY!

BETTY!

BETTY!

7

10.5

10

11

10

OUR 2015 YEARBOOK BEST-DRESSED WINNER!

BETTY!

BETTY, YOU LOOK AMAZING!

CAN THE WINNER HAVE A LITTLE KISS, ARCHIE?

SHOVE

BETTY! HOW COULD YOU DO THIS TO ME?!

THIS MEANT *EVERYTHING* TO ME! AND YOU DON'T EVEN *CARE* ABOUT FASHION!

I'M SORRY, VERONICA. I DIDN'T REALIZE--

AND HOW IN BLAZES CAN YOU AFFORD CHANIL?

EVEN IF IT IS *LAST YEAR'S.*

THAT'S BECAUSE IT'S *MINE.*

DIVINE TO SEE YOU STILL HAVEN'T IN-VESTED IN A GOOD WATERPROOF MAS-CARA, LODGE.

AND VERSAYCE? *REALLY?*

BETTY, YOU TEAMED UP WITH *CHERYL* TO PUBLICLY HUMILIATE ME?

YOU...YOU *TRAITOR!*

YOU'RE NO FRIEND AT ALL!

MY WORK HERE IS DONE. TOODLES!

COME ON, SIS. LET'S GO TAKE IDOLS FROM THAT SHRINE TO USE AS PAPERWEIGHTS!

WHAT DID YOU JUST CALL ME?!

ANY-THING ELSE I COULD HAVE FORGIVEN.

ANYTHING.

BUT NOT CHERYL!

100

BETTY!

VERONICA!

BETTY

VERONICA

STOP!

W-W-WHOA--

TRIP

OOPS!

KRAK

WHAM

OOF!

FOOMP!

VERONICA, ARE YOU OKAY?

=SOB=

I HATE YOU ALL!

BEST. MORNING. EVER.

BETTY!

YOU ARE *SUCH* A TROLL, REGGIE.

=SOB=

I CAN'T BELIEBE VERODICA BROKE BY DOSE!

AND ARCHIE DIDN'T EBEN *CAAAARE!*

=SOB=

...

YO-HO, YO-HO, IT'S OFF TO LOOT WE GO! WHEN YOU SEE TRINKETS RARE, DON'T LEAVE THEM THERE, YO-HO...

YO-HO, YO-HO, YO-HO...

=GIGGLE=

JASON, MAYBE THERE'S A FRESCO! I'VE ALWAYS ***WANTED*** A FRESCO.

SLASH

SLICE!

=HUF=

=HUF=

...HUH?

THIS MUST BE THE SHRINE CHERYL AND JASON WERE TALKING ABOUT!

BOY, THEY'RE THE *LAST* PEOPLE I WANT TO RUN INTO RIGHT NOW.

BUT IF THOSE TWO STOLE ANYTHING FROM HERE, I'M REPORTING THEM TO *NATO*.

UGH, CREEPY.

MAYBE THEY HAVEN'T BEEN HERE YET!

I CAN'T BELIEVE CHERYL WOULDN'T HAVE POCKETED THIS.

I, BETTY COOPER, CALL DOWN JAGUAR VENGEANCE ON NASTY OLD CHERYL BLOSSOM!

AND VERONICA LODGE FOR PUNCHING ME IN THE FACE *AND* KISSING MY ARCHIE.

RUOAAR!

OH!

MY GOODNESS!

OHHH...I DON'T LIKE THIS PLACE AT *ALL*!

BETTY!

BETTY!

BETTY, PLEASE COME BACK!

OH, ARCHIEKINS, I FEEL LIKE SUCH A HEEL!

I SHOULD *NEVER* HAVE TAKEN A SWING AT BETTY. CHERYL JUST GETS ME SO ANGRY, I STOP THINKING.

RUMMBLE!

=GASP= ARCHIE-KINS!

WHAT WAS THAT ?!

LUNCHTIME, ACCORDING TO MY TUMMY.

PAT PAT

SERIOUSLY, JUGGIE. ANY-ONE WOULD THINK YOU HAD A *TAPEWORM!*

AS LONG AS IT'S NOT LUNCHTIME ACCORDING TO THE *JAGUAR*, I'M GOOD.

BEEETTY!

OH, NO! THIS IS--

--POLYESTER!

BETTY, I'M SORRY! IT WAS ALL THE MOST AWFUL MISTAKE!

BETTY!

RUSTLE

ARCHIE! IT'S A JAGUAR!

BOING

HI!

THUD!

HEY!

BETTY! WE WERE SO WORRIED!

I'M SORRY I RAN OFF, EVERYONE.

I LET MY TEMPER GET THE BEST OF ME.

I DID TOO, BETTY. THAT WHOLE CONTEST WAS AN *AWFUL IDEA.*

HEY, BETTY, DID YOU SEE ANY JAGUARS?

NO, REGGIE.

WHAT ABOUT CHERYL AND JASON?

DID YOU SEE THEM?

BECAUSE I HAVE A BONE TO PICK WITH THAT--

OH, WHO CARES ABOUT CHERYL AND JASON?

THEY'VE PROBABLY SLUNK BACK TO THEIR YACHT.

YOU'RE RIGHT, BETTY. I GUESS THERE'S BEEN ENOUGH TROUBLE FOR ONE DAY.

I'D SAY THERE'S BEEN ENOUGH TROUBLE...

...FOR A WHOLE VACATION.

YEAH, I MISS RIVERDALE.

TRUTH. CAMPING, TUBING, OR OUTLET MALL, ANYONE?

BURGERS AT POP TATE'S FIRST.

OH, JUGGIE...

I'M SO SORRY YOU DECIDED TO CUT YOUR STAY SHORT!

IT'S OKAY. WE REALLY ENJOYED OUR TIME HERE AT LOS PERDIDOS...

...WE JUST REALIZED WE LIKE OUR HOME BETTER.

AND BESIDES, I NEED TO MAKE RIGHT WHAT I DID TO BETTY'S POOR NOSE!

VRRRUM

MUMMY HAS THE MOST *FABULOUS* PLASTIC SURGEON-- DON'T YOU WORRY!

UGH, I SWEAR THIS THING HAS GOTTEN HEAVIER!

WELL, I GOT MY WISH! IT CERTAINLY WAS A *MEMORABLE* VACATION.

WHAT IS--

PAT PAT

OH, NO!

I THOUGHT THE RESORT WAS SO AMAZING, WE WERE SURE TO HAVE THE BEST SPRING BREAK EVER--

MAIN ST

POPS CHOCKLIT SHOPPE

POP'S

BURGERS • HOT DOGS • ICE C

POP

--BUT I GUESS IT'S NOT WHERE YOU GO THAT MAKES THE HOLIDAY...IT'S WHO YOU BRING WITH YOU!

ULP!

OH, I COULD HAVE TOLD YOU *THAT*, ARCHIEKINS!

IT WAS WAY TOO HOT THERE, ANYWAY!

OH, MOOSE. YOU COMPLAINED ALL WINTER ABOUT THE COLD...

YOU'LL ALWAYS BE NUMBER ONE IN EVERY POLL TO ME, BABY.

WHY DO YOU THINK I HANG WITH YOU GUYS?

DRA-MA!

ANYWAY, I'M GLAD EVERYTHING'S BACK TO *NORMAL*.

Dan Parent

Chapter 2

HEY, BETTY, YOU GOING TO GIVE THAT NICE DRESS BACK TO CHERYL?

I DUNNO... IT'S PRETTY DESTROYED.

I HOPE SHE DOESN'T ASK ME TO PAY FOR IT.

I LOOKED UP WHAT IT COST ONLINE, AND IT'S MORE THAN MY PARENTS' CAR.

CHERYL WOULDN'T BE CAUGHT DEAD IN LAST YEAR'S CLOTHES. SHE'D ONLY DEMAND IT BACK TO BE VINDICTIVE.

THAT'S WHAT I'M AFRAID OF, VERONICA.

TINKLE

G-GUYS!

BAWG

I HAVE AWFUL NEWS!

CHERYL AND JASON WERE *KILLED* NEAR OUR RESORT!

APPARENTLY SOME SORT OF JUNGLE ANIMAL--

OH, NO! WHAT IF--

THAT'S--

THAT'S--

=GASP!=

I NEVER LIKED CHERYL, BUT THAT'S AWFUL!

AW, I MADE YOU KIDS THIS SPECIAL WELCOME-HOME CAKE, BUT MAYBE THIS ISN'T--

YES! CAKE!

CAAAKE!

SERIOUSLY. BAKED GOODS ARE PART OF MY COPING MECH-ANISM.

I HAVE A NOTE FROM MY DOCTOR.

OKAY THEN, KIDS.

GET READY FOR YOUR VERY OWN SLICE OF--

SPLUT

To LIVE and DIE in a SMALL TOWN

AAAAAAAAAAAAAAA

OKAY, EVERYONE! INTO THE BACK, *NOW!*

P-POP--!

I...

I DID THIS.

MOOSE, CALL 911...

...

MASON

THIS IS MY FAULT!

BETTY! *COME ON!*

NNF!

THERE, GANG. KEEP AWAY FROM ANY WINDOWS.

AND *NOBODY* LEAVES UNTIL THE POLICE ESCORT US OUT.

VERONICA? I KNOW WHY THIS IS HAPPENING. I CAN STOP IT.

I NEED YOU TO COME WITH ME *RIGHT NOW.*

WE'RE OFF TO THE BATHROOM!

POP'S CHOCKLIT SHOPPE

WH-WHERE ARE YOU TAKING ME?

GREENDALE.

WE'RE GOING TO SEE SABRINA.

WHAT?! *WHY?*

AND I'LL NEED YOUR CAR KEYS. YOU CAN'T DRIVE LOOKING LIKE THAT.

LIKE WHAT?

A SERIAL KILLER. YOUR FACE...

REALLY, BETTY. WHAT CAN *SABRINA* DO?

OTHER THAN BE THE POSTER CHILD FOR *ANEMIA.*

WELL, I BELIEVE WE ARE BEING PURSUED BY SOMETHING *SUPER-NATURAL.*

AND *SABRINA'S* NAME IS IN...

...ALL THE WEIRD VOODOO BOOKS IN THE LIBRARY.

BETTY COOPER, WHY WOULD YOU KNOW ABOUT VOODOO BOOKS?!

ASK MY ARCHIE TO THE WINTER FORMAL, WILL YOU?!

KISS HIM BEHIND THE FOOTBALL SHED, WILL YOU?!

STAB STAB STAB

HAHA!

NO REASON.

NO REASON AT ALL.

IT'S JUST...I SAID SOMETHING I SHOULDN'T HAVE WHEN I WENT TO THAT SHRINE IN THE JUNGLE.

AND, WELL, VERONICA... THAT SHOT WASN'T MEANT FOR POP TATE.

I, *UH*...PUT A JAGUAR CURSE ON YOU.

WHAT?!

WEE-OO WEE-OOO

SORRY SORRY SORRY.

IT'S OKAY. WE'RE ALL SAFE NOW.

WEE-OO WIRP WIRP

THANK HEAVENS FOR THE RAPID POLICE-RESPONSE TIMES HERE IN THE SUBURBS!

WIRR

SO CHERYL'S DEATH WAS AN ACCIDENT TOO?

POLICE

RIVERDALE POLICE

WELL... I *MAY* HAVE ACCIDENTALLY CURSED HER TOO...

JASON *MIGHT* HAVE BEEN COLLATERAL DAMAGE...

I DON'T WANT TO THINK ABOUT IT...

RIVERDALE 16A, 10-33 FOR A 187 BROAD-CAST.

YOU GOT THE PATCH, 16A.

POP'S CHOCKLIT SHOPPE

SHERIFF

CHOCKLIT SHOPPE IS CLEAR!

ALL KIDS ARE OUT!

NO!

VERONICA AND BETTY ARE STILL IN THE BATHROOM!

KID! C'MON!

BETTY'S A PRETTY BLOND... A-AND VERONICA'S A CURVY BRUNETTE. THEY--

SORRY, KID. I CHECKED THE BATH-ROOMS MYSELF.

NOBODY'S LEFT IN THERE--!

I HAVE TO FIND THEM!

ARCHIE, *NO!* THERE'S AN ARMED SHOOTER ON THE LOOSE!

LET THE *POLICE* LOOK FOR THE GIRLS.

ARCHIE! LISTEN TO REGGIE! HE'S--

(I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M SAYING THIS)

--THE VOICE OF REASON.

IT'S THE END TIMES.

EW.

YOU RING IT.

BING-BONG

SHE COULDN'T VOODOO UP A CLEANING LADY?

OR A GARDENER?

THAT'S NOT HOW VOODOO WORKS, SILLY...!

BETTY, WE NEED TO TALK ABOUT YOUR SUPERSTITIONS.

HERE IS A PARTIAL LIST...

...OF THINGS THAT *ARE NOT REAL:*

CREEAAK!

TAROT.

HORO-SCOPES.

YOUR LUCKY HAIR SCRUNCHIE.

VOODOO.

IN FACT, MAGIC OF *ANY* SORT--

YOUR DEFINITION OF REALITY IS AS NARROW AS THE REST OF YOUR MIND, VERONICA LODGE.

FOLLOW ME.

TOLD YA.

OOH, WHAT A PRETTY STATUE--

HSST!

WHA POW

OW!

SABRINA, YOUR CAT'S HAD HIS SHOTS, RIGHT?

SHOW ME THE JAGUAR KNIFE, BETTY COOPER.

OH! HERE.

BETTY, *SERIOUSLY*, WHAT IN THE WO--

HMMM.

THIS IS SOME ATOMIC-LEVEL BAD JUJU, BETTY COOPER.

YOU DON'T FOOL AROUND.

I *LIKE* THAT.

THE SIMPLE SOLUTION IS TO USE THE KNIFE TO KILL AS MANY PEOPLE AS YOU CURSED.

BUT FAILING THAT, I HAVE SOMETHING THAT MIGHT WORK.

WELL, IT'S *REALLY* FOR ZOMBIES.

BUT WHO EVER SEES ZOMBIES IN REAL LIFE?

DUM DA DEE ♪

BETTY, ARE YOU COOL WITH THIS?

BECAUSE I AM *NOT* COOL WITH THIS. NOT ONE LITTLE BIT...

SHUT UP, VERONICA LODGE.

GNAAAH!

FLIP FLIP

=AHEM=

OGTHROD AIF' GEB'L-EE'H-YOG-SOTHROTH--

SKASH!

--'NGAH'NG A''Y ZHRO--?

EEP!

GLUK

CHANK!

SPURT

SHNK

PLEASE DON'T KILL US.

PLEASE.

MY DADDY HAS LOTS OF MONEY.

RAWR!

WHOA!!

=HUUH=
=HNUUU=
OH, MY GOSH, BETTY.

D-DID YOU SEE IT?
I DON'T KNOW WHAT I SAW...

...B-BUT I MIGHT HAVE VIDEOED IT.

WHAT?! WHY?!

IN CASE I EVER NEEDED TO KNOW HOW TO DO AN EXORCISM?

AND HOW COME YOU NEVER GET COVERED WITH BLOOD?

BECAUSE KARMA.

I'M BORROWING CLEAN CLOTHES FROM SABRINA'S CLOSET.

NOT LIKE SHE CAN USE THEM ANYMORE.

ESPECIALLY THE TURTLENECKS.

WEIRD.

WEIRD.

WEIRD.

KLAK KLAK KLAK

OOH! CUUUTE.

NOT *QUITE* ME, BUT IT'LL DO...

WAIT! HERE IT IS!

BETTY! IT'S... HORRIBLE!

WE'RE BEING HUNTED...

...BY NINJAS...

...WITH TERRIBLE HAIRDOS!

BUT WE BROKE THE JAGUAR CURSE!

BETTY.

THERE. IS. NO SUCH THING. AS. A. CURSE.

THEN HOW DO YOU EXPLAIN SABRINA'S INVISIBLE KILLER, MISS SMARTYPANTS LODGE?

HE'S A NINJA!

WHY ARE *NINJAS* FINE...

...BUT NOT MAGIC?!

BECAUSE *SCIENCE!*

UGH, *WHATEVER,* CHARLES DARWIN.

BETTY, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

WE HAVE TO PROTECT OURSELVES, VERONICA.

BETTY COOPER. SERIOUSLY.

YOU'LL JUST TRIP OVER AND INJURE YOUR-SELF.

OR ME.

=SIGH=

YOU'RE RIGHT, VERONICA.

TUNK

BUT WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO?

FRET NOT, BETTYKINS. I HAVE A PLAN!

ZIP ME?

SO OUR NINJA SEEMS A BIT OBSESSED WITH US, WHICH IS TOTES UNDER-STANDABLE, BECAUSE WE *ARE*...

...THE TWO CUTEST GIRLS IN RIVERDALE (IF NOT THE WORLD), BUT THAT MEANS WE NEED TO TEXT ALL OUR FRIENDS TO MEET US SOMEWHERE SAFE, LIKE THE SCHOOL GYM, AND THEN WE SMILE AND BAT OUR EYELASHES AT THE BOYS AND ALSO THE COPS, AND THE NEXT TIME OUR TRAGICALLY COIFED NINJA STALKER COMES FOR US, THEY CAN BLOW HIM TO SMITH-EREENS IN RE-TURN FOR KISSES.

WE DON'T EVEN KNOW IF HE IS KILLABLE, VERONICA.

OR A NINJA.

SHINK

RIVERDALE HIGH SCHOOL
GO BULLDOGS!
RIVERDALE HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASIUM
BETTY!
VERONICA!
I'M SO HAPPY TO SEE YOU!
DID YOU HEAR? THERE'S BEEN ANOTHER MURDER, IN GREENDALE!
HI, GUYS!
GO RIVERDA
DID EVERYONE GET OUR MESSAGE?
BECAUSE WE'RE STILL MISSING--
DUH, SORRY I'M LATE.
I BROUGHT MY DADDY'S GUNS.
I BROUGHT MY DADDY.
AND I BROUGHT MY *UNCLE'S* GUNS.
NOW, MISS... MY SON SAID YOU HAD A PHOTO OF THIS THING?
HMM. THIS IS WHAT I FEARED.
UNCLE *SAM!*
OMG! GENERAL KELLER!
MAY I SEE IT?
16

KIDS, FOR THE SAFETY OF THIS GREAT COUNTRY OF OURS, OCCASIONALLY THE U.S. MILITARY KEEPS THINGS SECRET FROM THE GENERAL CITIZENRY.

ONE OF THEM IS THE EXISTENCE OF *PREDATORS.*

"PREDATOR"?

LAMEST.

NAME.

EVAAR!

I WONDER WHAT *ELSE* THE GOVERNMENT IS KEEPING FROM US?!

A RACE OF NEARLY UNSTOPPABLE ALIEN HUNTERS WHO MAKE PLANETFALL ON EARTH IN TIMES OF EXTREME HEAT. PREDATORS HUNT THE PLANETS' MOST DANGEROUS WARRIORS ...GANGSTERS, BLACK-OPS SOLDIERS, ET CETERA, AND TAKE THEIR SKULLS...

...AS TROPHIES.

THERE ARE SPECIFIC RULES:

THE TARGET MUST HAVE A WEAPON, OR MUST DIRECTLY CHALLENGE THE PREDATOR. THEIR STEALTH ARMOR MAKES THEM NEARLY INVISIBLE, AND THEY HAVE INFRARED VISION. IT'S BAD NEWS, KIDS. REALLY BAD NEWS. ON THE PLUS SIDE...

VERONICA, BETTY, *SHUSH!*

...GIVEN THE SIZE OF THIS SPECIMEN, HE APPEARS TO BE A JUVENILE EXAMPLE.

WHAT?

THIS PREDATOR'S A *TEENAGER,* MOOSE. LIKE YOU.

I JUST CAN'T FIGURE OUT WHY A PREDATOR WOULD COME TO RIVERDALE.

NONE OF YOU KIDS HAS DONE ANYTHING RECENTLY THAT MIGHT BE PERCEIVED AS VIOLENT, HAVE YOU?

ONLY VERONICA... SMASHING BETTY'S NOSE IN A CATFIGHT IN COSTA RICA.

WHAT DO WE DO, GENERAL KELLER? SHOULD WE WAIT FOR THE COPS?

THE COPS ARE ALL IN GREENDALE. THEY, *UH...*

THEY FOUND A *MASS GRAVE* AT THE SPELLMAN HOUSE.

IF I HAD A SPECIAL-OPS UNIT, WE'D SEND OUT A SOLDIER DRESSED AS VERONICA TO LURE THE PREDATOR OUT, THEN HIT IT WITH EVERYTHING WE'VE GOT.

I BROUGHT MY DADDY'S GUNS!

MOOSE, THAT'S NICE, BUT WE'RE NOT FIGHTING THE WICKED WITCH OF THE WEST.

WHO COULD BE FOOLISH ENOUGH TO VOLUNTEER AS PREDATOR BAIT?

MORE IMPORTANTLY--

--WHICH OF YOU BOYS ARE *SKINNY* ENOUGH--

--TO FIT INTO A SIZE 6?

BOYS

WHAT?

JUGGIE, WOULD YOU DO AN ICKLE FAVOR FOR YOUR LITTLE RONNIEKINS?

I'LL BUY YOU LUNCH EVERY DAY FOR A *YEAR.*

I'M TALKING ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT BUFFETS, JUGGIE.

HOO-RAH!

Y'KNOW, I BET WHOEVER BAGS THE PREDATOR IS GONNA GET *MAJOR* BOOTY FROM THE LADIES.

PSST, SAFETY IS RIGHT THERE, RAMBO.

FOR RIVERDALE!

FOR THE GIRLS!

FOR THIRD BASE!

MAAASTER CHIEEEEF!

ARCHIE, YOU STAY AND WATCH THE GIRLS AND DILTON.

SIR, YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT I HAVE CONSTRUCTED A--

THEIR SAFETY IS IN YOUR HANDS.

SIR!

=SIGH=

DILLON'S

WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?

KILL ME!

HA HA

YIKES!

WHORP

KLUOOM

M-MIDGE!

GIVE HIM EVERYTHING YOU GOT, BOYS!

NOW!

SKREEE

CRASH

SPLAT

YAAAAAAAAAA!

BRAKKA

BRAKKA

BUDDA

BUDDA

BUDDA

FOOM

PCHOW

WHORP

BRAKKA

BRAKKA

BRAKKA

FZZT

POP

SCHLUK

HEY, UGLY.

YO' MAMA SAID IT WAS YOUR BIRTHDAY...

HEY.

...SO I GOT YOU A PRESENT.

K.A.B.O.O.M.

NN... NNNUH...

...HUH?

!

Gisèle '14

Chapter 3

RIVERDALE. THE SORT OF SWEET LITTLE TOWN EVERYONE DREAMS OF MOVING TO WHEN THEY REACH A CERTAIN AGE.

LODGE INDUSTRIES

POP'S

WELCOME TO RIVERDALE

THE VICTORIAN HOUSES, EACH WITH ITS OWN YARD.

THE CHARMING BOUTIQUES AND CAFÉS OF MAIN STREET.

THE NATIONALLY RANKED HIGH SCHOOL.

RIVERDALE HIGH SCHO

Established 1941

ARCHIE...?

ANYONE?!

KLIK

1

SPANG!

CHUD

AAH!

TINK

TONK

N-- NNUH

WE GOT HIM! WE GOT THE--

JUGHEAD!

JUGHEAD... HOW DID IT GO? WHERE ARE THE OTHERS?

HMM... NEED TO REDUCE TRIGGER LAG...

DEAD...

THEY'RE ALL *DEAD*...

THE PREDATOR TOO?

I DON'T KNOW.

I SAW ITS BLOOD, BUT...I THINK IT GOT AWAY.

CHUCK ...BAE...

OH, NO! WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO?

WE *LEAVE!*

BUT...THE PREDATOR WILL JUST FOLLOW US, WHEREVER WE GO, UNTIL IT KILLS US!

NO. UNTIL IT KILLS *YOU.*

THEN IT GOES BACK TO WHEREVER IT CAME FROM.

JUGHEAD! HOW COULD YOU EVEN--

MY FRIENDS ...MOOSE ...KEVIN... CHUCK... EVEN MIDGE...

I'M *WEARING* ALL THAT'S LEFT OF THEM.

I'M SORRY, ARCHIE. I JUST WANT THIS TO *END.*

WE WERE STUPID TO EVEN *TRY* TO FIGHT BACK, JUGHEAD.

JUST A BUNCH OF KIDS GETTING IN OVER THEIR HEADS...

WE SHOULD JUST STAY HERE AND WAIT FOR THE POLICE.

AND NOBODY PICK UP ANYTHING RESEMBLING A WEAPON.

IT'S TOO LATE FOR THAT.

THE POLICE ARE NO MORE.

WHAAAT?

THE ENTIRE RIVERDALE POLICE FORCE...

(BOTH CARS)

...WERE HELPING GREENDALE'S COPS AT THE SPELLMAN HOME, WHEN IT ALL JUST...DISAPPEARED.

WHAT DISAPPEARED? DILTON, I DON'T UNDERSTAND...?

THE HOUSE. THE POLICE. THE MASS GRAVE. *EVERYTHING.*

LOOK.

IT'S JUST... GOATS.

POLICE LINE DO NOT CR POLICE LINE

POLICE

OH, GOD! WE'RE ALL ALONE!

IT'S JUST THE MONSTER OUT THERE, WOUNDED, ANGRY--AND THE EIGHT OF US...

MIRA, ACTUALLY? JUST THE FIVE OF YOU.

JUGHEAD HAD A POINT.

I HAVE WATCHED OVER THREE HUNDRED HORROR MOVIES, AND TEENAGERS OF COLOR *NEVER* MAKE IT TO THE END.

UNLESS YOU WANT TO COME WITH US, BOYS?

GINGER! NO!

PLEASE STAY!

WE *CAN* SURVIVE THIS--

AND WE CAN, TOO. A HUNDRED MILES SOUTH OF HERE AT *MI TÍA'S* BEACH HOUSE.

HASTA LA VISTA, BABY!

WE *WILL* SURVIVE THIS, GROUP HUG!

OH, ARCHIE!

÷SNIF÷

VERONICA, CHERYL WAS RIGHT. YOU NEED TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THAT MASCARA.

÷*SNIF*÷ THE WATER-PROOF KIND GIVES ME PINKEYE. ÷*SNIFF*÷

WHAT DO WE DO NOW, CHIEF?

I THINK YOU SHOULD COME WITH ME TO THE A.V. CLUB ROOM.

WHERE *IS* THAT, EVEN? NOBODY EVER GOES THERE!

PRECISELY.

FOLLOW ME.

HOW YOU DOING, GOOD BUDDY?

BLOOD SUGAR'S REALLY LOW.

WELL, I SUPPOSE IF WE DON'T KNOW WHERE THE A.V. CLUB IS, AND WE GO THERE...

...THE MONSTER WILL *NEVER* BE ABLE TO FIND IT!

EEP!

SKREE*!

CAN WE TURN THE LIGHTS ON?

YEAH, TH-THIS IS *SUPER* CREEPY!

NO, THEY'RE ON A TIMER, AND WEATHERBEE GETS *FURIOUS*...

...WHEN I MESS WITH IT.

DILTON, WE'RE BEING HUNTED BY AN *ALIEN*, AND YOU'RE HUNG UP ON THE BEE GETTING PEEVED? I DON'T THINK--

HE SAID IF I MESS WITH THE SCHOOL'S POWER GRID AGAIN, HE'D TAKE THE A.V. ROOM AWAY FROM ME.

"IT'S AUDIO-VISUAL, DILTON-- NOT AUDIO-VISUAL-POWER."

ALTHOUGH *A.V.P.* IS A PRETTY COOL ACRONYM.

CREEAK

WHAT WAS THAT...?

GURGLE

AWESOMELY VALUABLE PLAYER?

!!!

DILTON, TURN THE LIGHTS ON. I'LL SQUARE IT WITH THE BEE.

FINE. THE FUSE BOX IS THIS WAY.

BUT IF I GET DETENTION, YOU'RE TAKING IT FOR ME.

DO EITHER OF YOU GIRLS HAVE A HAIRPIN!?

NO.

I HAVE A PEN-KNIFE ?!

SNACK

PAT PAT

ARGH.

OF COURSE VERONICA NEVER CARRIES CASH.

SNACKS

HMMM...

AHA!

=NNF=

CLUNK CLAK

=UNH=

RESULT!

ZIP! CHOCOLATE BAR

THUNK!

AT LAST!

ONE MORE SECOND WITHOUT SUGAR...

...AND I'D HAVE BEEN A GONER!

HEY! WHERE'S JUGHEAD?

I DON'T KNOW!

UHH... NEAR THE CLOSEST FOOD SOURCE?

WE NEED TO STAY TOGETHER. I'M GOING BACK TO GET HIM.

=TSK!= WAIT!

I'VE ALMOST GOT THE LIGHTS BACK ON.

THEN WE CAN ALL--

=SIGH=

JUGHEAD!

UTILITY

BINK BINK BI

JUGHEAD!

WHA--

BAM

NO...

NO!

YOU STUPID MONSTER!

ARCHIE! DID YOU FIND HIM?

OH, MY GOD.

NO NO NO NO--

MY FRIENDS AREN'T WARRIORS! THEY'RE *KIDS!*

JUGHEAD IS THE GENTLEST SPIRIT YOU'LL EVER MEET!

(UNLESS YOU'RE A HAM-BURGER.)

AAAUGH!

÷SNURK÷

I CAN'T LOOK!

SSH, BETTY.

IT'S SO HORRIBLE.

÷SOB÷ I KNOW.

...

I CAN'T HELP BUT THINK JUGHEAD WOULD FIND THE FRAMING *APPROPRIATE,* THOUGH.

I AM GOING TO *KILL* THAT PREDATOR.

BUT HOW, ARCHIE?

THIS IS WORSE THAN THE TIME WHEN GRANDMA RAN OVER THE YORKIE...

...WITH THE LAWNMOWER.

I TOLD YOU BEFORE. FOLLOW ME TO THE A.V. ROOM.

YOUR ANSWER LIES THERE.

SO MUCH BLOOD...

...FOR SUCH A LITTLE DOG.

OH, JUGGIEKINS. I ALWAYS SAID THAT JUNK FOOD WOULD KILL YOU.

=SNIFF= BUT I DIDN'T ACTUALLY WANT YOU TO DIE.

HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE ME, ARCHIE?

OF COURSE YOU HAVEN'T.

YOU OKAY, BABY?

/ ONLY WHEN YOU HOLD ME.

TO BE IN THIS SCHOOL, WHERE EVERY-THING IS ABOUT DATING...

AND TO NEVER BE ASKED.

I'M A GOOD GUY, ARCHIE. A REAL GENTLEMAN.

HECK, I'M ALREADY A MILLIONAIRE FROM MY APP STORE EARNINGS.

BUT NOBODY PICKS ME.

=AHEM=

SORRY, RONNIE.

I TRIED NOT TO LET IT BOTHER ME.

SPENDING FRIDAY NIGHTS READING OLD ISSUES OF *REVIEWS OF MODERN PHYSICS* AND PLAYING CHESS, INSTEAD OF GOING TO DANCES AND MOVIES.

SMOOCH

WISHING I COULD BE SOMEBODY ELSE, EVEN JUST FOR A LITTLE WHILE.

HMM...?

A.V. CLUB

KEEP OUT

ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT YOUR BODY-SWAPPING MACHINE AGAIN?

NO, ARCHIE...

I WANT TO BE *AMAZING.*

THIS END UP

RIVERD

A.V. CLU

DILTON!

...oh *em gee!*

WHAT.

WHY IS IT ARCHIE?

DON'T YOU REALIZE, VERONICA? *EVERY-THING* IS ARCHIE...

...*ALWAYS.*

FEAR NOT, BETTY AND VERONICA. JUST THINK OF ME AS ARCHIE FOR A LITTLE WHILE.

KTANK

I WILL SAVE YOU FROM THE PREDATOR.

AND THEN WE WILL CUDDLE.

VAAAA

UM, IT TAKES A SEC TO BOOT UP.

GIRLS, YOU SHOULD HIDE. THE PREDATOR CAN'T BE FAR AWAY.

I'LL GET THEM TO SAFETY.

DILTON, UH, THANK YOU, I THINK.

PTANG

OH, CRUD.

EVERY-THING OKAY, DILTON?

FZZT

THIS SHOULD--

DILTON!!!

WHOOPS, NO, NOT THAT. SORRY.

FWOOM

AAAAH!

ARCHIE, CAN YOU GRAB THAT BIG WRENCH AND OPEN THE HATCH ON MY LOWER BACK? I THINK A WIRE'S COME LOOSE.

SURE, ROBOT ARCHIE!

UM, WHERE EXACTLY--

THE SECOND HATCH DOWN. MARKED WITH ORANGE?

FWOOSH

EEP!

OH NO!

KRASH!

WHAMM KRAK

AAA AHH!

UGH! WHY ISN'T IT INVISIBLE ANYMORE?!

I DON'T WANT TO SEE IT!

VWOOP

ARCHIE! HELP! I STILL CAN'T GET THE WEAPONS SYSTEMS ONLINE!

SKRUNCH

GRAAAA!

SKASH KLIK

OOH! GOT IT!

KILL SWITCH ENGAGED!

KILL PREDATOR.

KRAK

KILL EVERYONE!

OH, BOTHER! THIS ISN'T GOING RIGHT AT ALL!

UM, ARCHIE?

I CAN'T STOP IT!

IT WON'T TURN OFF!

OH, VERONICA!

BETTY!

!

KINDA BUSY!

VRRRR

WHEW! THANK GOODNESS!

VVVT

KILL!

POW

OKAY, THAT WASN'T TOO BAD!

WHOP

OH.

ULP.

ARCHIE!

OH, GOD... IF ARCHIE DIES...

HE WON'T. FIRST, WE'RE GOING TO STANCH THE BLOOD.

SLASH BUZZ KRAK

OW.

SSH, ARCHIE, EVERY-THING WILL BE OKAY.

IF THEY KEEP FIGHTING, WE CAN SNEAK OUT.

LODGE MANOR HAS MEDICAL FACILITIES--

FWIP

--WELL, POOP.

KILL.

BETTY, YOU ARE THE NICEST, PRETTIEST GIRL I HAVE EVER KNOWN, AND I AM SO, SO SORRY THAT MY INVENTION IS TRYING TO KILL YOU.

HMMM

DILTON, I BELIEVE IN YOU! YOU'RE CLEVER! I *KNOW* YOU CAN SHUT IT DOWN!

BETTY, MAYBE I CAN! MAYBE--

SHINK

I KNOW YOU CAN DO IT, DILTON!

YOU KNOW, I THINK-- I THINK I'VE GOT IT! IF I JUST REWIRE THE MAIN TARGETING CIRCUITRY--

KILL?

BETTY!

IT'S OKAY. I'M WEARING MY LUCKY HAIR SCRUNCHIE!

BE--TTY.

CUDDLE.

OH, DILTON! I AM SO PHENOMENALLY PROUD OF YOU.

DOES THIS MEAN I'M THE HERO?

UM...

YES, DILTON! YOU'VE NETTED THE PREDATOR AND SAVED US ALL!

I'M THE HERO!

911, WHAT EMERGENCY SERVICE DO YOU NEED?

UM, WHO-EVER DEALS WITH ALIENS?

CONNECTING YOU TO BORDER PATROL NOW.

NO! THAT'S NOT WHAT I --AHHHH!

SHANK FZZT

SCHLUK

DILTON!

OH, GOD.

WE'RE ACTUALLY GOING TO DIE.

FULL METAL VARSITY JACKET

ANDREW PEPOY
2015

Chapter 4

N-NOW WHAT?

KKRAK

EW! HE ISN'T GOING TO--

SERIOUSLY! KILL ME NOW!

SCHLUK!

EEEEEE-EEEEW!

PTUI

=GLORP=

SLAP

KLUK

UUNH...

BETTY!

UH...

PLEASE GO AWAY.

PLEASE LEAVE ME AND MY FRIENDS ALONE.

WHAT DID WE EVER DO TO YOU?

=SOB=

?

BE-

TY.

=SNUFFLE=

I'M VERONICA, YOU TWERP.

TINK

OOF.

OW.

ARE YOU OKAY, BETTYKINS?

RONNIE, I HAD THE *WORST* DREAM!

UM, WHY ARE YOU WEARING AN EVENING DRESS?

BECAUSE IF I'M GOING TO DIE, YOU CAN BET IT'S GOING TO BE IN COUTURE.

IT WASN'T A DREAM!

HOW IS ARCHIE--

AAAH!

WHY DO YOU STILL HAVE THAT KNIFE? GET RID OF IT!

NO *DUH*. I TRIED.

IT KEEPS COMING BACK. LIKE THE PREDATOR.

SABRINA SAID IT NEEDS TO TAKE TWO LIVES, BECAUSE YOU CURSED TWO PEOPLE WITH IT.

SO SOME-ONE ELSE STILL HAS TO DIE.

RONIIIIIE...

WHAT ARE WE GOING TO *DO*?

DADDY INSTALLED A PANIC ROOM IN LODGE MANOR LAST YEAR, AFTER THAT RUSSIAN ARMS DEAL WENT SOUR.

WE'RE GOING TO USE IT.

AND THEN WE ARE GOING TO BLOW THE PREDATOR TO KINGDOM COME.

WON'T WE GET IN TROUBLE FOR BLOWING UP YOUR HOUSE?

BETTY! THIS THING WILL NEVER STOP. IT'S KILLED ALL OUR FRIENDS. IT DIES OR WE DIE.

NOW COME HELP ME WITH ARCHIE.

OWW.
ALMOST THERE!
HURTS SO BAD.
FIFTEEN MINUTES UNTIL SELF-DESTRUCT SHOULD GIVE US ENOUGH TIME...
I'M NOT SURE THIS IS A GOOD IDEA, VERONICA.
DIP DOOP DOOP
NO. THE BAD IDEA WAS RELYING ON BOYS TO DO THINGS FOR US.
MM
BOYS NEVER DO ANYTHING RIGHT, BETTY.
PROPERTY
GNNNAH!
PATIENT DETECTED . PATIENT DYING
OH NO!
NO NO NO! ARCHIE CANNOT DIE!
WAIT! I CAN DO THIS--
BOOP BOOP BOOP
BOOP BOOP BOOP BOOP
PUSH PUSH
MASH
FLICK
COME ON, YOU STUPID MACHINE!

!

DANGER

NO!

BOOP BOOP BOOP

CRANK

0

11

WHO DARES, WINS.

SMASH!

BOOP NO BOOP BOOP BOOP

PATIENT STABILIZING!

OH, THANK GOODNESS!

SHUK

BOOP BOOP BOOP BEELWWW

GET BETTER, ARCHIEKINS!

YOU STILL HAVE TO PICK A STEADY GIRL.

PICK ME.

BUT--

C'MON. YOU SIMPLY *CAN'T* DIE IN DEPARTMENT-STORE CLOTHES.

IT LOWERS THE TONE.

VERONICA?

DO NOT EVER TURN DIAL BEYOND 4 -- H.L.

VERONICA LODGE: AIN'T GOT TIME...

11

...TO READ.

VERONICA?

NNUH!

NNUH!

H-HELP!

DON'T LEAVE ME--

VAAAAAAAAM

VAAAAAAAAM

CAW

HMM...

TOO MERINGUE-Y ?

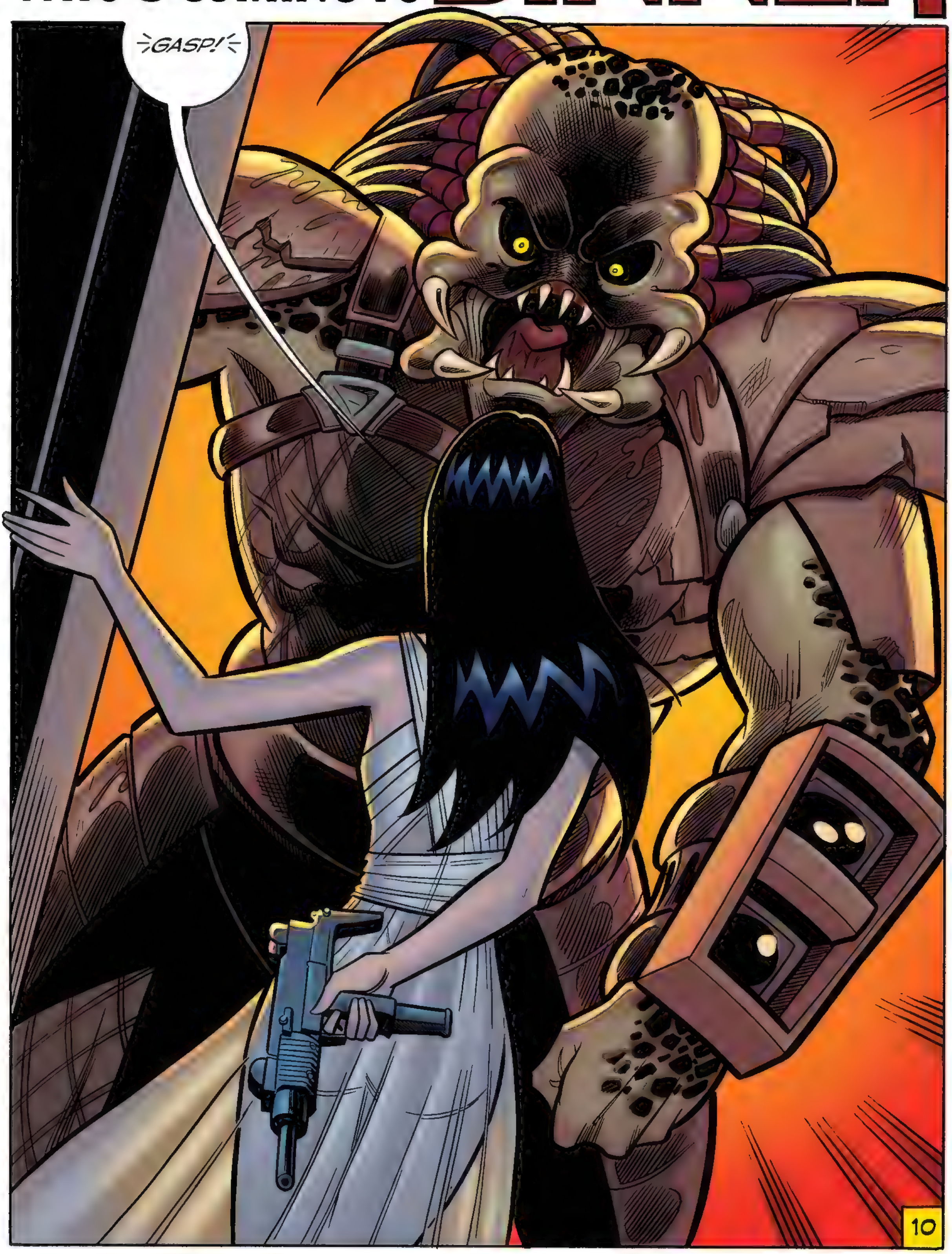
VERONICA...ARE YOU SURE THE PREDATOR IS HERE?

I'VE NEVER BEEN SO SURE OF ANYTHING IN MY LIFE!

HE'S OUT THERE, BETTY.

SOME-WHERE.

GUESS WHO'S COMING TO DINNER



SNIK

BRAKKKABRAK BRAKKA BRAKKA BRAKKA

RATS.

VERONICA!

WHAT SHOULD I DO?

GET DOWN HERE AND GRAB A WEAPON!

BRAKKAAA BRAKKAAAA BRAKKAAA

COMING--

--OH NO!

RRIPP

SNAP

UH-OH!

CLICK CLICK

WHOOSH

SMACK

UUGH! YOU ARE ONE UGLY MELON FARMER!

STAY BACK!

I'LL USE THIS IF I HAVE TO!

AAAH!

SNAP

VERONICA! PLEASE GET UP!

NNF.

PANIC ROOM! RIGHT NOW!

LEAVING!

WAIT! MY LUCKY HAIR SCRUNCHIE --!

REMAINING ALIVE AND SCIENCE!

IS HE FOLLOWING US?

ULP!

DIP DOOP DOOP

YES!

OOF!

AAAND CLOSE.

BUH-BYE!

NOT SO FAST.

POW!

THAT'S FOR ALL MY FRIENDS!

UM...

...I THINK I SET THE MACHINE TOO HIGH?

IT'S OKAY. I FORGIVE YOU.

WE DO HAVE AN *EENSY* HOUSE-BLOWING-UP PROBLEM, THOUGH.

CAN'T YOU STOP IT?

UM, NO.

4:55

CHAK

TUNK

GO, ARCHIE! STOMP ON HIS FACE!

ARCHIEKINS! I HAVE AN IDEA--

IT'S OKAY, RONNIE, I GOT THIS!

GOSH, VERONICA! LET ARCHIE DO HIS THING!

HEY, UGLY! THIS IS FOR JUGHEAD!

CHALK!

KER

BASH

WHAM

YEAH, HIS THING IS GOING SO WELL.

VERONICA, HOW CAN YOU DO BETTER?

WELL, FOR STARTERS--

--I CAN END TWO CURSES WITH ONE--

HKK--

VE-

RON--

KRAK

SCHLUK

WHOOSH

NNNGH!

GULP!

NOT!

MY!

ARCHIE!

HHG GGRAR!

SLASH

UK.

ARCHIE!

YOU KILLED MY ARCHIE...

YOU... YOU...

HNNH!

ALWAYS LIKED MACES.

DADDY SAID THEY WEREN'T A LADY'S WEAPON...

RONNIE!

POOF

ARCHIE...HE WAS THE BEST OF ALL OF US. DEVOTED TO HIS FRIENDS, ALWAYS LOOKING OUT FOR US...

HE WAS NEVER MEAN, NOT EVEN TO UNPOPULAR KIDS...

SURE, HE COULDN'T MAKE A DECISION, AND HE'D TRIP OVER A LINE IN THE SAND...

...BUT HE HAD REALLY CUTE FRECKLES ON HIS SHOULDERS...

=SNUFFLE=

OH, VERONICA! YOU *UNDER-STAND*...

I NEVER THOUGHT YOU REALLY UNDER-STOOD WHY I LOVED ARCHIE.

KLANG KLANG KLANG KLANG!!!

VERONICA... =SOB= WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO WITHOUT HIM?

HOUSE ...GONNA ...BLOW.

GET ...TO... PANIC... ROOM...

WHY BOTHER ...? THERE'S NOTHING TO LIVE FOR WITH-OUT ARCHIE!

KLANG

BE-TY.

BE-TY GO.

BE-TY LIVES.

BETTY! =KOFF!= LISTEN TO THE UGLY NINJA! YOU ARE THE BRAVEST, SMARTEST GIRL I KNOW.

DON'T TELL ANYONE, BUT =KAFF= YOU'RE ALSO THE PRETTIEST.

AND YOU ARE SEVENTEEN GOSH DARN YEARS OLD. YOU'LL GET OVER ARCHIE.

GET TO THE PANIC ROOM!

KLANG KLANG KLANG KLANG

no!

WHOOM

NOT WITHOUT MY FRIENDS!

NNUH.

WHAT HAPPENED--

I USED YOUR DAD'S MACHINE TO HEAL US! IT'S REALLY SUPER!

AND DID YOU KNOW THERE'S A WHOLE SECTION IN THE MANUAL ON FACE AND BODY RECONSTRUCTION?

ENTER DESIRED PATIENT TRAITS
HAIR: RED
FRECKLES: YES
SKIN: CAUCASIAN
EYES: GREEN

PLEASE TELL ME YOU DIDN'T GIVE *YOURSELF* PLASTIC SURGERY.

EW. NO. NOT FOR *US.*

MANUAL

BUT GUESS WHAT, RONNIE? WE WON'T HAVE TO LIVE WITHOUT AT LEAST SOME VERSION OF ARCHIE, AFTER ALL.

ENTER

I MEAN, WE'LL HAVE TO TEACH HIM--

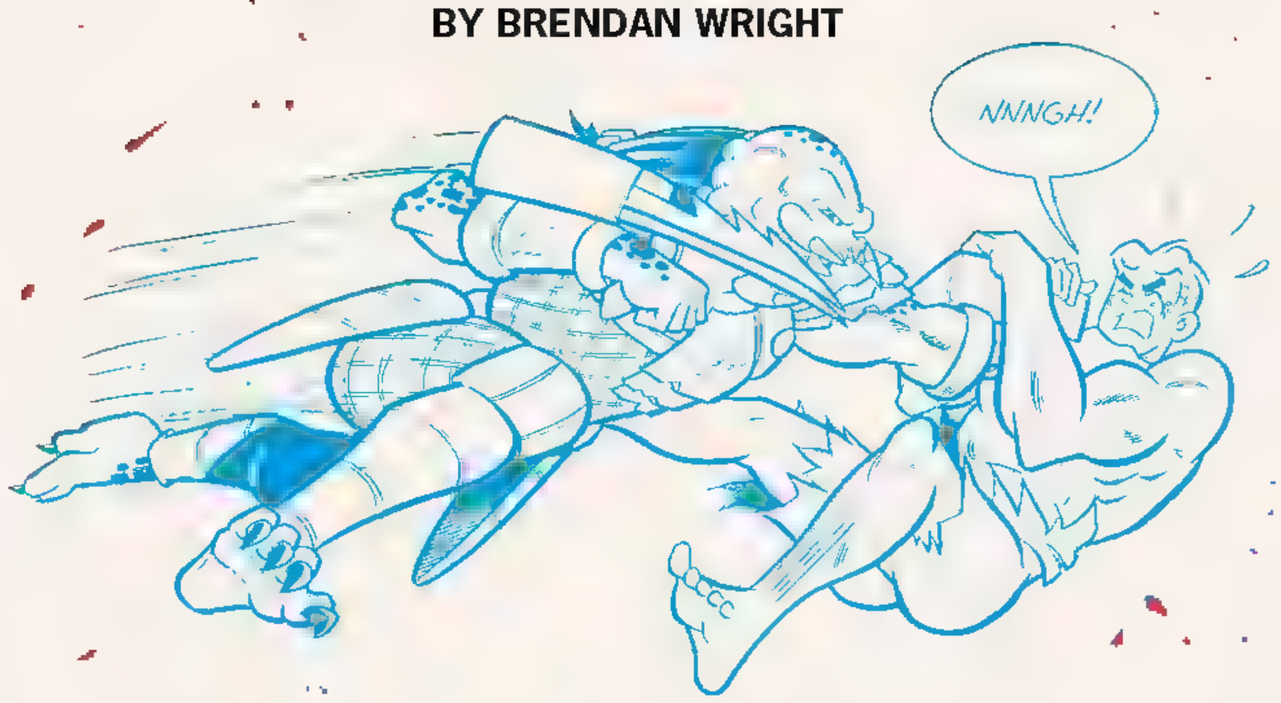
--TO CHILL OUT AROUND THE CUTLERY.

BUT HE *IS* DEVOTED TO US. AFTER ALL, HE DRAGGED HIMSELF IN HERE TO BE WITH US.

The END

Afterword

BY BRENDAN WRIGHT



Archie vs. Predator is some of the most fun I've had in what I consider a fairly charmed career, so I have a lot to say about it. Those readers who wish to skip to our backup stories, cover gallery, and sketchbook section are advised to turn the page for the short version of this afterword. For everyone else, here's a bit more about how this insane project came to be.

THE LONG VERSION:

I wish I could claim *Archie vs. Predator* was my idea, but it originated in the March 2014 Archie creative summit that Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa wrote about in his introduction. The company was a few years into an astonishing creative resurgence, still ongoing, so nothing was off the table, and when someone suggested Archie take on the Predator in their next crossover, the sheer incongruousness of the idea made it a winner. Sure, Archie met the Punisher years ago, but no one died (except, as writer Alex de Campi likes to point out, Frank Castle's self-esteem), and the Predator is even more ruthless than the Punisher. In an interview with ComicsAlliance, our eventual artist Fernando Ruiz remembered thinking, "It'll never happen, and if it did, they'd never let me draw it."

I was just as incredulous when I learned of the idea at a party a couple of months later. It was immediately obvious that *Archie vs. Predator* was something that *needed* to exist, but it didn't sound like something that *could* exist. If it was real, I badly wanted to be a part of it. Luckily, with me editing both Dark Horse's long-running *Archie Archives* reprints and the then-current *Predator* series, it was meant to be. I would get to be part of the team that pitted one of my favorite comics characters against the creature from one of my favorite movies.

The project got even more exciting in our first phone call with Alex Segura and Roberto at Archie. Publisher Jon Goldwater had given permission to kill some of the gang. Soon everyone became fair game, though whether Archie himself would survive to the end took the longest to figure out. Initially, the Archie team was concerned that killing him again so soon after the much-publicized *Death of Archie* would feel repetitive, but eventually they decided that as long as he wasn't shot again, it would be okay. From that point on, Archie existed in a Schrödinger's cat–like state, surviving in half of the outline and script drafts and dying in every other draft, right up to the final version of #4, when Alex de Campi devised the cherry on our crazy sundae of making the Predator *into* Archie.

Which brings me to Alex. At the time, we were putting all our worst ideas into her series *Grindhouse: Doors Open at Midnight*, where she showed that she can channel horror, humor,

and realistic teenagers with equal skill. But what clinched her involvement was that, at the same time Alex was writing *Grindhouse*, she was also scripting IDW's *My Little Pony: Friends Forever*, flipping between exactly the opposite tones we hoped to meld in *Archie vs. Predator*. I called Alex to ask if she was interested, and she started pitching ideas like she'd been thinking about this forever; knowing her, maybe she had.

The other important breakthrough in that first phone call was that we all agreed that this series needed to be drawn in the traditional Archie art style, which is deceptively simple but in the right hands can be used to beautiful effect. While *Archie Meets the Punisher* was an innovative combination of the Archie and Marvel styles of the day, and the groundbreaking *Afterlife with Archie* shocked readers by abandoning the traditional style altogether, we agreed that this project would be all the more bizarre and unsettling if it featured the Archie characters as we know them and brought the Predator fully into their world.

Despite his initial doubts that he'd get to be involved, Fernando was the first and only penciler we discussed, the guy Archie brings in for action-heavy stories that still need the characters perfectly on model. I had been especially impressed by Fernando's work on the recent *Thor* parody "The Clod of Thunder" in *Archie* #648, which is full of settings, characters, and visual effects that don't usually show up in Archie comics but never look out of place. Fernando got to work imagining a Predator who looked like he belonged in the Archie universe, and we got to see just how versatile he is.

Rich Koslowski, who inked Fernando on "Clod of Thunder," took as little convincing as Fernando did, and Rich's lush ink line is the perfect complement to Fernando's bold figures. I wanted *Archie vs. Predator* to be hand lettered for that extra bit of classic flavor, so to round out our theft from "Clod of Thunder," we brought in John Workman, king of bombastic sound effects. Finally, to capture the necessary depth in the action, we chose to go with a slightly more rendered color style than the typical Archie comic, and Jason Millet's variant covers for various Archie series showed he understands the palette and can introduce more dimensionality to the characters without overwhelming the Archie style.

On the Fox side, the only worry was that it isn't in character for the challenge-loving Predator to target a bunch of teenagers, so we came up with the idea that this Predator would also be a teenager, and an unhealthy obsession with Betty and Veronica didn't hurt in putting him on the gang's trail. As the story got weirder, a game of can-you-top-this quickly got underway between writer, artists, and editors, with everyone suggesting cameos, *Predator* references, and fashion concepts. At some point, the growing violence and intensity led the title to change from *Archie Meets Predator* to *Archie vs. Predator*, which was just as well, since we'd all been calling it *AvP* for months by then.

With the story and team in place, we got to work creating an old-school schedule. This was my first time working with a penciler/letterer/inker team who all worked on the same physical art. A few artists, like *Usagi Yojimbo*'s Stan Sakai, do all those things themselves, which is considerably simpler, but today most comics are lettered digitally, and even when there is a separate penciler and inker, it's common for the pencils to arrive digitally and for the inker to ink over printouts, which then come in digitally as well.

Having everyone work traditionally meant that each page was FedExed three times before reaching Dark Horse. First, Fernando sent pencils to John for lettering, which is done before the inking to make sure there is enough room and to integrate the word balloons and sound effects into the artwork. Next, John sent a batch of pages to Rich for inks, and finally, Rich FedExed the completed art to Dark Horse. This process added a lot of time to the schedule, and got nerve racking toward the end, but it resulted in gorgeous pages that could be read from the original art, and whenever pages without the Predator came in, I got to pretend I was editing a classic Archie series.

The announcement came at New York Comic Con 2014. It's easy to lose perspective when working every day on something the rest of the world doesn't know exists, and up until the convention it had never occurred to us—or at least to me—that the series was as big a deal as it was. We all knew we were having a ridiculously good time, but we were totally unprepared for the scale of the reaction, which was similar to the original mix of disbelief and exhilaration most of us had felt on first hearing about the project, writ large. Being there that weekend while the buzz was at its hottest, it was clear that the series was going to make a mark, and shopping for variant covers at the con was easy, with so many artists eager to join in the fun. The number of covers kept growing too, as retailers joined in and commissioned several exclusive covers.

Every time we pushed the series at subsequent conventions, the reaction was just as strong, as if each time they'd thought we couldn't possibly be serious and only this time did they really believe it. Even some of the reviewers of issue #1 wrote that they hadn't really expected it to materialize until they held it in their hands. Reaction was overwhelmingly ecstatic, and a great advantage of following *Afterlife with Archie* was that it allowed us to repeat that series' trick of upsetting expectations. With *Afterlife*, many readers had expected a traditional Archie story that would take a turn when the zombies arrived. Instead it was a darker take on the Riverdale gang from page 1. Having read *Afterlife*, some readers expected *Archie vs. Predator* to similarly start dark and get darker, but were surprised to find something that looked and felt very much like a regular Archie comic, until it suddenly didn't.

And now it's over. I've joked that I should quit comics, because what will ever top this—but if anything, *Archie vs. Predator* has taught me that amazing opportunities sometimes come out of nowhere, and those surprises are part of why I love comics. It would be a shame to miss the next one. So thanks to the Archie team for bringing *AvP* to us. To Fox for saying yes to all the things you should have said no to. To the creative team and all the contributing cover artists and backup artists for channeling your inner wrongness for good. It feels like it should have been harder to pull this off, but everyone was working at the top of their game, and it shows on every page and every cover. To assistant editor Ian Tucker, designer Jimmy Presler, and digital artist Ryan Jorgensen for putting so much creativity into the series' presentation. And to everyone who read along. What a ride.

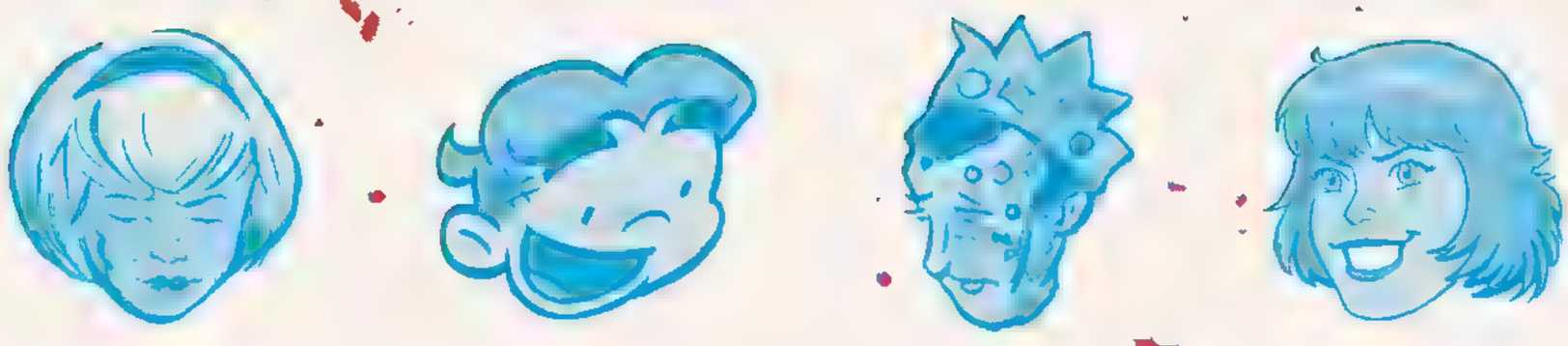
THE SHORT VERSION:

It was all my idea! Bwahahaha!

Brendan Wright
Editor

Bonus Crossovers

ALL STORIES WRITTEN BY ALEX DE CAMPI



Who knows when we'll get to go this crazy again, so we surprised readers with secret crossovers between more Archie and Dark Horse characters in the back of each issue.

SABRINA MEETS HELLBOY

From issue #1

Art and colors
ROBERT HACK

Letters
CLEM ROBINS

Hellboy created by
MIKE MIGNOLA

LI'L ARCHIE AND HIS PALS MEET ITTY BITTY MASK

From issue #2

Art, colors, and letters
ART BALTAZAR

The Mask created by
MIKE RICHARDSON

JUGHEAD MEETS MIND MGMT

From issue #3

Art, colors, and letters
MATT KINDT

MIND MGMT created by
MATT KINDT

JOSIE AND THE PUSSYCATS MEET FINDER

From issue #4

Art
CARLA SPEED McNEIL

Colors
JENN MANLEY LEE

Letters
ALEX DE CAMPI

Finder created by
CARLA SPEED McNEIL

Sabrina Meets Hellboy

WE'LL BE BACK AT DAWN.

=Tee hee=

BE GOOD, SABRINA DEAR!

=GIGGLE=

WALPURGISNACHT, HERE WE COME!

A LITTLE TOWN CALLED GREENDALE.

SABRINA (AGE EIGHT).

HMPH!

SALEM (THE CAT).

SUZY BANYON DECIDED TO PERFECT HER BALLET STUDIES--

NNN

THUD

KLUNK

BAD LUCK ISN'T BROUGHT BY BROKEN MIRRORS...

HELLBOY.

BUREAU FOR PARANORMAL RESEARCH AND DEFENSE.

AW, CRAP.

HISSSS

COOL IT. I'M NOT GONNA TOUCH THE GIRL.

I'M HERE ABOUT YOU.

...

MY PAPERS ARE IN ORDER. WHEN WE EMIGRATED FROM GERMANY--

GERMANY, MY ASS.

C'MON, WHAT HAVE THEY GOT ON YOU?

HAK

MY POWERS... BOUND TO A NEEDLE, IN ONE OF THEIR BLACK HEARTS...

=MMF=

SALEM, WHO'S HERE?

FUTURE QUEEN OF WITCHES, I PRESENT THE FUTURE KING OF HELL.

HI! WANNA BUILD SOME LEGO?

er...

little MASK and his pals

AW FIDDLESTICKS!

FIREWORKS TONIGHT! CANCELED !

KEWL!

WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO NOW?!

IT'S OKAY, KIDDEROONIES!

I GOT FIREWORKS... IN MY PANTS!

POOPY!

I WANT TO BE JUST LIKE YOU WHEN I GROW UP!

MASK NOT FOR You!

KABOOM!

OOOO!

AAAAA!

WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN, ARCHIE?

OH, THEY DID THE FIREWORKS AFTER ALL!

I MET MY HERO!

-AW, YA MISSED IT!

WHEN FILING REPORT ALL ESSENTIAL DETAILS MUST FALL WITHIN THIS SOLID "LIVE AREA" BOX. THIS IS THE BORDER FOR A STANDARD, NON BLEED FIELD REPORT

MIND MGMT RECRUITMENT JOURNAL. 1.1. Subject code name "Jughead" was located, and his ability to control his body with his mind to avoid fatal injury is confirmed.

So where are you taking me for my birthday, Uncle Henry?
SCENIC VUE!
OVER-LOOK!
To lunch, but first I wanted to show you something.

I WORK FOR a clandestine organization of mind-powered agents that manipulate global events for the greater good. You...ARE the last, hungriest, immortal. But I had to be sure.
SNAP!

JUGHEAD MEETS MIND MGMT

"S" IS FOR SLEEPER

Written by Alex de Campi
Art by Matt Kindt

Josie and the Pussycats Meet Finder

UGGGH. WHICH FESTIVAL IS IT NEXT?

♪CROTCHELLA, I THINK?♪ ♪I'M WAAAY PAST CARING.

ALL I WANT IS A *BATH*.

A **BUBBLE** BATH.

HHHOW LONG CAN IT TAKE FOR ALEX TO ASK DIRECTIONS?

MM, *DUNNO*. HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE HIM TO SWALLOW HIS *PRIDE*?

NO, I BET HE'S CHANGING INTO HIS *FESTIVAL* COSTUME.

♪HEE♪

♪HEE!♪

WHAT NEW HORRORS AWAIT...

YEAH, HOW COME OUR MANAGER GETS A WHOLE NEW LOOK EVERY SHOW, AND WE DON'T?

REMEMBER THE CRUSHED-VELVET ONESIE HE WORE AT SXSW--

MESDEMOISELLES.

OMG

WHAT IS ♪WRONG♪ WITH ME ♫ ALEX LOOKS MEGA HOT ♫ SO WRONG

OKAY, MR. VOGUE HOMME. YOU HAVE **DIRECTIONS** FOR US, OR NOT?

WOW, ALEX! THAT IS... A **WHOOOLE** NEW LOOK, ALL RIGHT!

OH, SURE--FOLLOW THE PIPELINE EAST 'BOUT EIGHT MILES, PARK BACK O' THE PEACOCKS, GO ON IN.

ERRR-KAY?

HEY! AREN'T YOU COMING?

I'LL CATCH UP WITH YOU LATER.

WHAAATEVER, ALEX...

SQUEEE! IT'S A SPA!

MEANWHILE...

LAYDEES! FEAST YOUR EYES ON THE BOOTY KING OF CROTCH--

...JOSIE?

GIRLS?!!

OOH, DON'T YOU FEEL GUILTY BLOWING OFF THE FESTIVAL LIKE THIS?

MMMYEAH. SOOO GUILTY.

NO TENTS, NO RANCID PORTA-POTTIES. YEP, I'M OVERCOME WITH GUILT.

♫ HEE HEE! I LOVE IT HERE!

♫ THE POOL BOY'S REALLY CUTE! ♫

THE END!

Variant Cover Gallery

Archie vs. Predator's main covers, which appear in this volume as chapter breaks, were drawn by artists with multiple previous Archie credits, to bring more of the Archie team onboard and to signal that, unlike *Afterlife with Archie*, this series features the characters' familiar looks. Each issue had two variant covers, and issue #1 also featured a handful of store-exclusive and convention-exclusive covers. For the variants, we reached beyond traditional Archie artists, in some cases to capture *Predator*'s action/horror roots, and in others simply to go in wild directions with the crazy character pairing.

Issue #1 Variant

ERIC POWELL

Issue #1 Incentive Variant

FRANCESCO FRANCAVILLA

Issue #1 San Diego Comic-Con Variant

COLLEEN COOVER

Issue #1 Phoenix Comicon Variant

DARICK ROBERTSON WITH JASON MILLET

Issue #1 Phantom Variant

ANDREW PEPOY WITH **JASON MILLET**

Issue #1 Four Color Grails Variant

DENNIS CALERO

Issue #1 Books-A-Million Variant

FRANCESCO FRANCAVILLA

Issue #1 GameStop Variant

PATRICK SPAZIANTE

Issue #2 Variant

ROBERT HACK WITH **STEPHEN DOWNER**

Issue #2 Incentive Variant

DUSTIN NGUYEN

Issue #3 Variant

KELLEY JONES WITH **MICHELLE MADSEN**

Issue #3 Incentive Variant

PAUL POPE WITH **SHAY PLUMMER**

Issue #4 Variant

FAITH ERIN HICKS WITH CRIS PETER

Issue #4 Incentive Variant

JOE QUINONES

Issue #2 Pinup

TIM SEELEY

Issue #3 Pinup

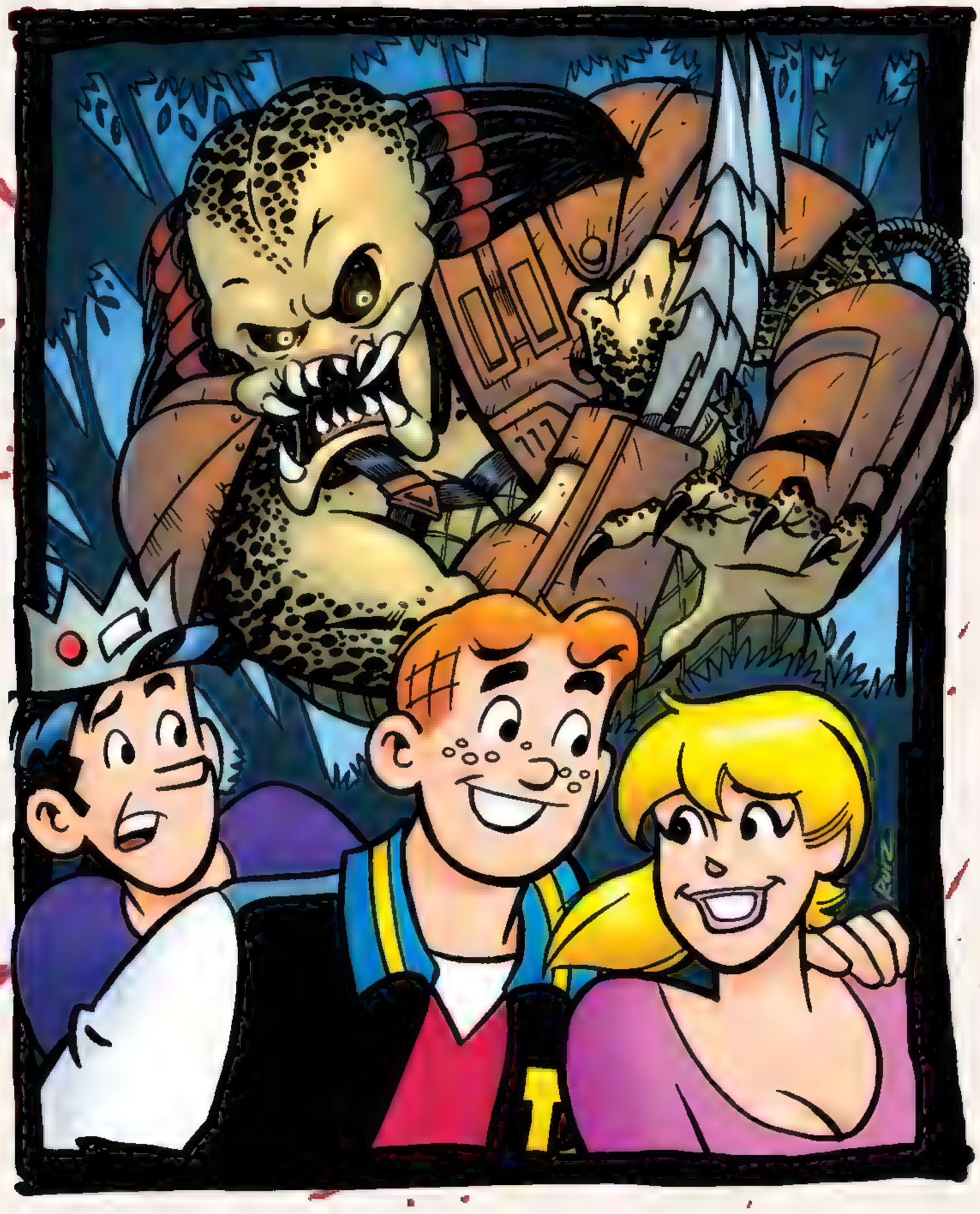
RICHARD P. CLARK

Issue #4 Pinup

FERNANDO RUIZ WITH **ANWAR HANANO**

Hardcover-exclusive Pinup

RICH KOSLOWSKI



The official *Archie vs. Predator* promo image shown at New York Comic Con, by Fernando Ruiz and Jason Millet. This image also became the cover of the *Archie vs. Predator* ashcan given away at conventions throughout 2015.

Unofficial promo art created by *Archie vs. Predator* variant cover artist and *Afterlife with Archie* artist Francesco Francavilla for his website.

The original, comically uneven *AvP* logo shown at the NYCC announcement.

Character Studies

BY FERNANDO RUIZ

Upon joining the *Archie vs. Predator* team, penciler Fernando Ruiz began work on the challenge of "Archifying" the intricate Predator design to make the creature fit visually alongside Archie and the rest of Riverdale's residents.

While a master of Archie's house style, Ruiz is also a versatile artist, and his initial drawings show a more detailed Predator to familiarize himself with the basic design.

In subsequent sketches and inked drawings, the Predator's physique and equipment are simplified and the creature's expressive range is exaggerated to allow it to show the emotions and reactions it will exhibit over the course of the series.

We quickly learned that the cuter the Predator is, the more disturbing it becomes.

Additional sketches by Ruiz, as he plays with melding the Predator universe and the Archie universe.

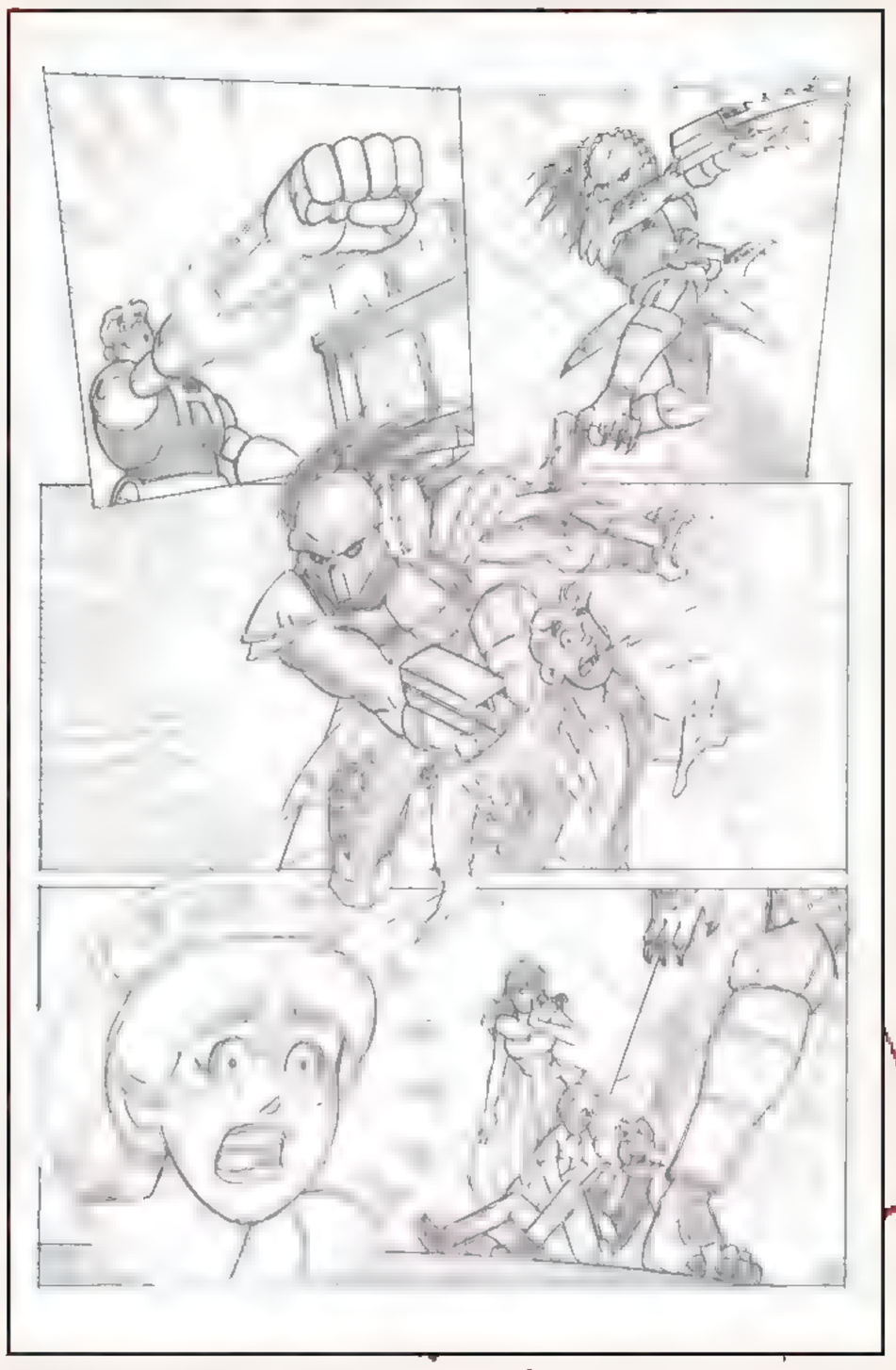
Art Process

Archie vs. Predator's artwork was created traditionally, with Ruiz mailing the physical artwork to letterer John Workman, who adds word balloons and sound effects before sending the art on to inker Rich Koslowski.

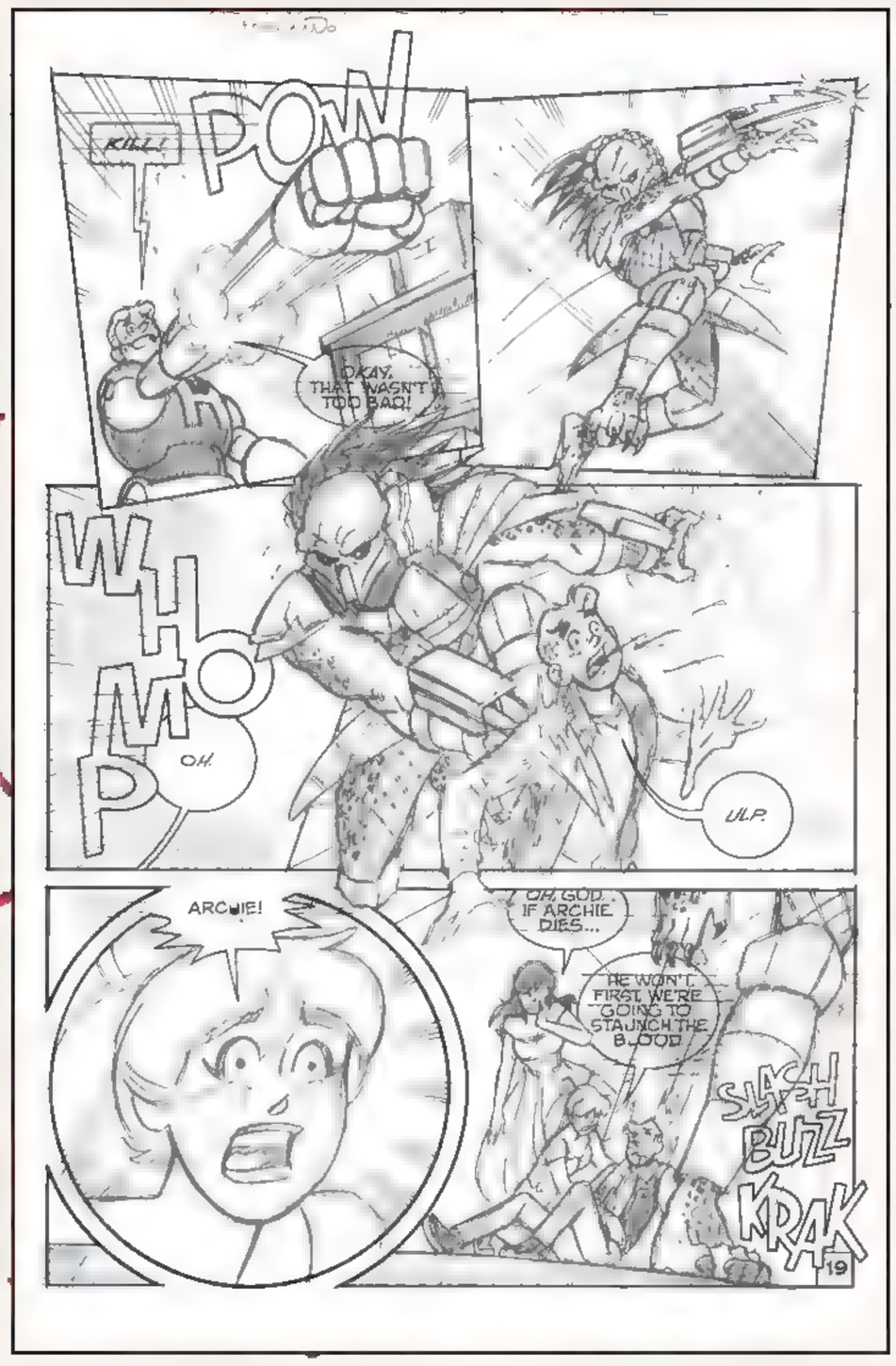
Pencils for issue #3, page 15

FEAR NOT, BETTY AND VERONICA JUST THINK OF ME AS ARCHIE FOR A LITTLE WHILE.
I WILL SAVE YOU FROM THE PREDATOR.
KTANK
VAAAAAAAAA
AND THEN WE WILL CUDDLE.
UM. IT TAKES A SEC TO BOOT UP.
GIRLS, YOU SHOULD HIDE. THE PREDATOR CAN'T BE FAR AWAY.
I'LL GET THEM TO SAFETY.
DILTON. UH, THANK YOU, I THINK
VAAAAA
PTANG
OH, CRUD.
FZZT
EVERY-THING OKAY, DILTON?
15

Letters



Pencils for issue #3, page 19



Letters

Koslowski embellishes the artwork around the lettering and mails the completed pages to Dark Horse. There they are scanned and sent to colorist Jason Millet, the only member of the art team working digitally.

FEAR NOT, BETTY AND VERONICA. JUST THINK OF ME AS ARCHIE FOR A LITTLE WHILE.
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FZZT
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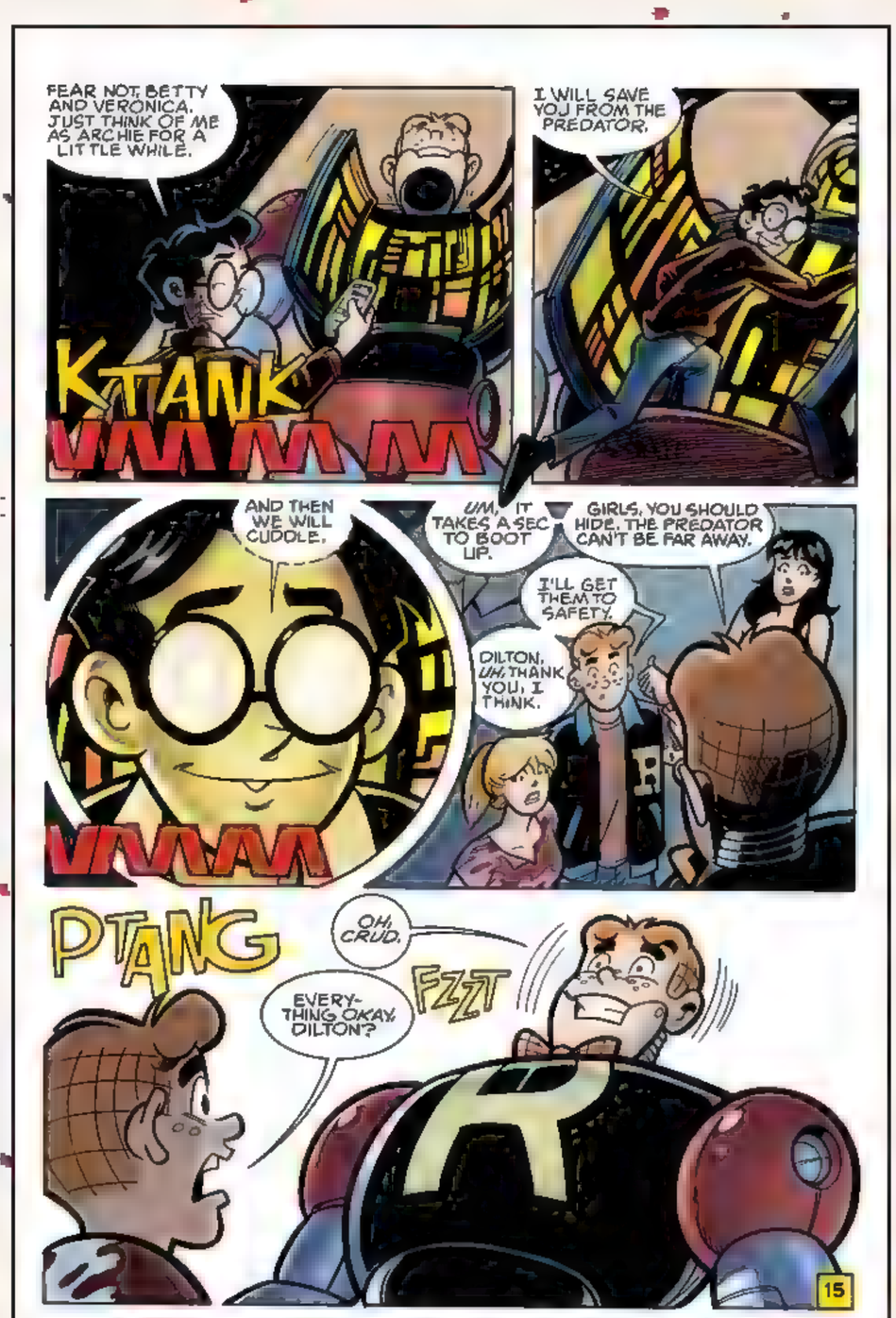
Inks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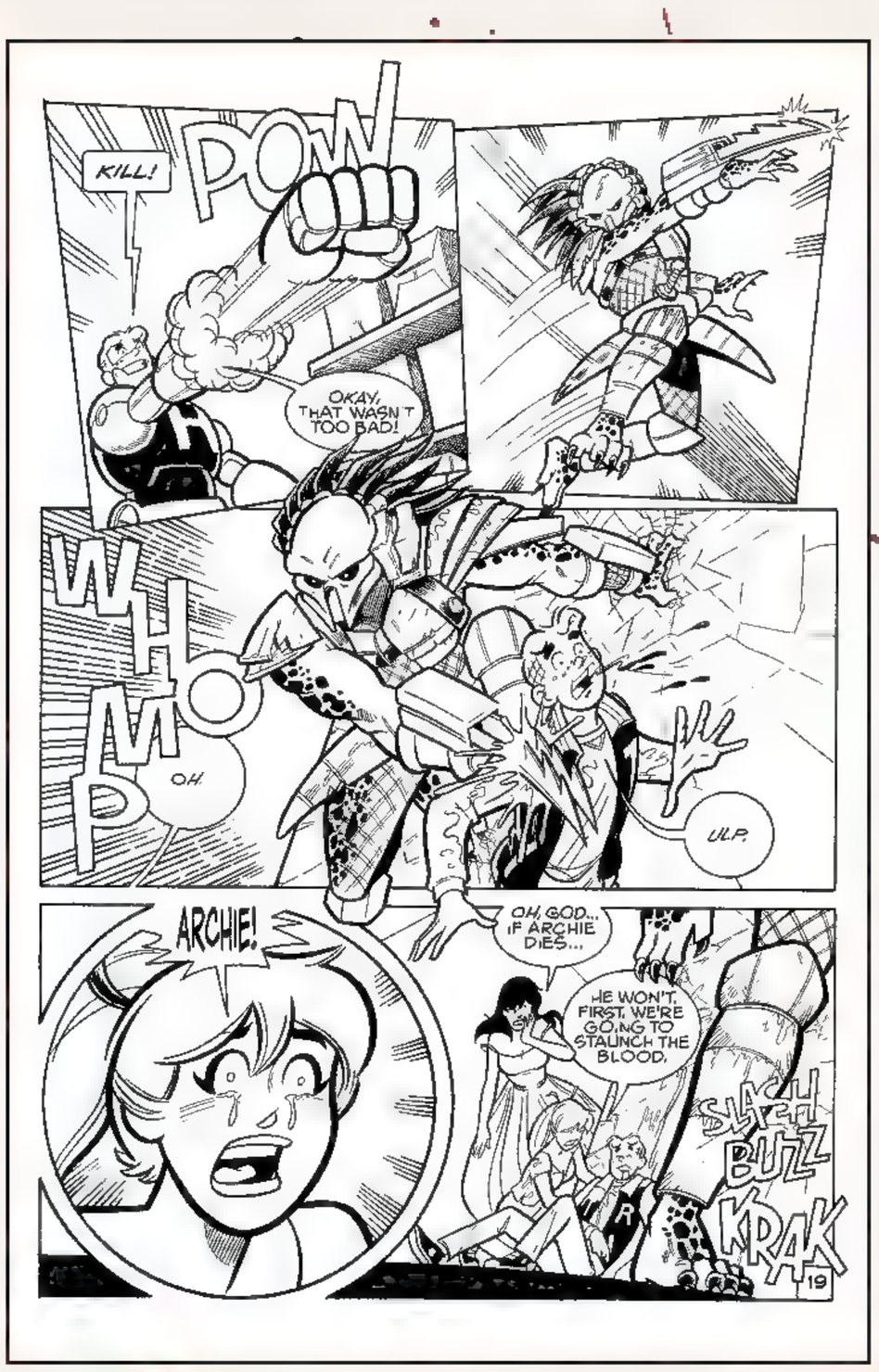
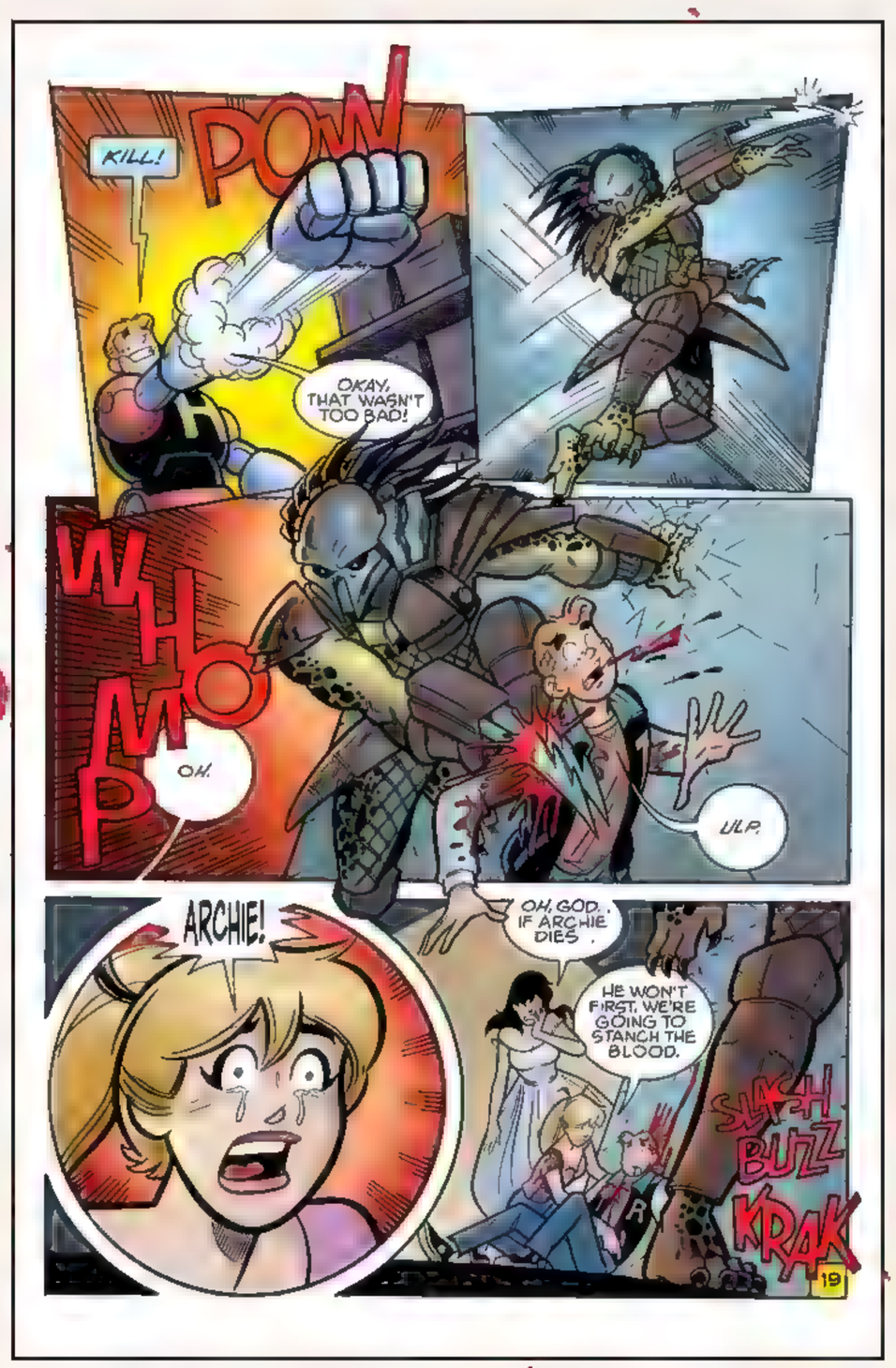
FZZT
15

Colors



Inks



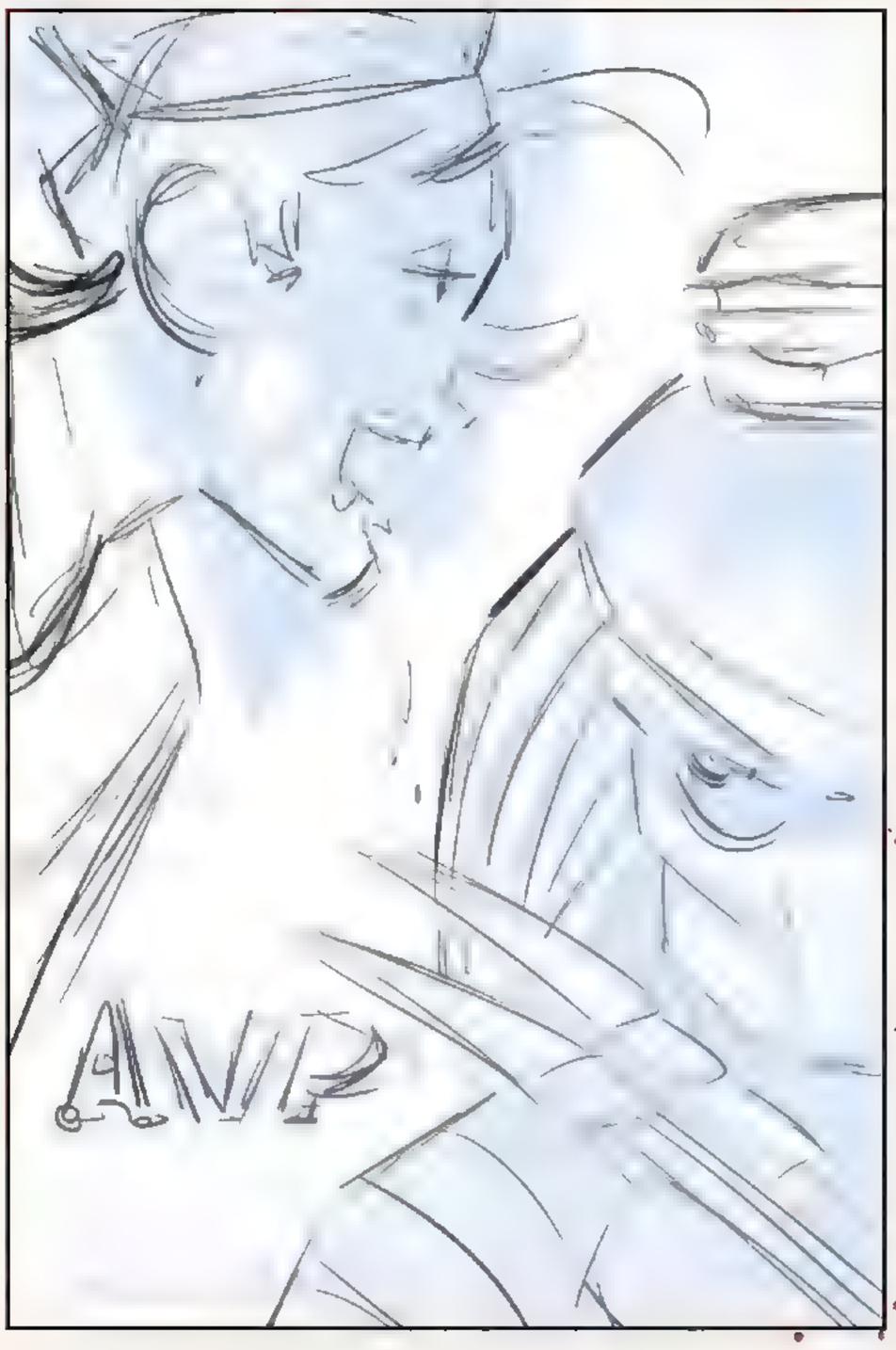
Colors

Unused Covers

Even with eighteen series covers, there were many more great cover concepts that weren't used, either because a cover artist supplied us with multiple ideas we loved, or because a previous cover had featured a similar theme. In particular, beach scenes and Jughead's skull with his signature hat proved irresistible to many artists. Here are a few of our favorite unused concepts.

Concept for the issue #1 cover
FERNANDO RUIZ

Concept for the issue #1 cover
FERNANDO RUIZ

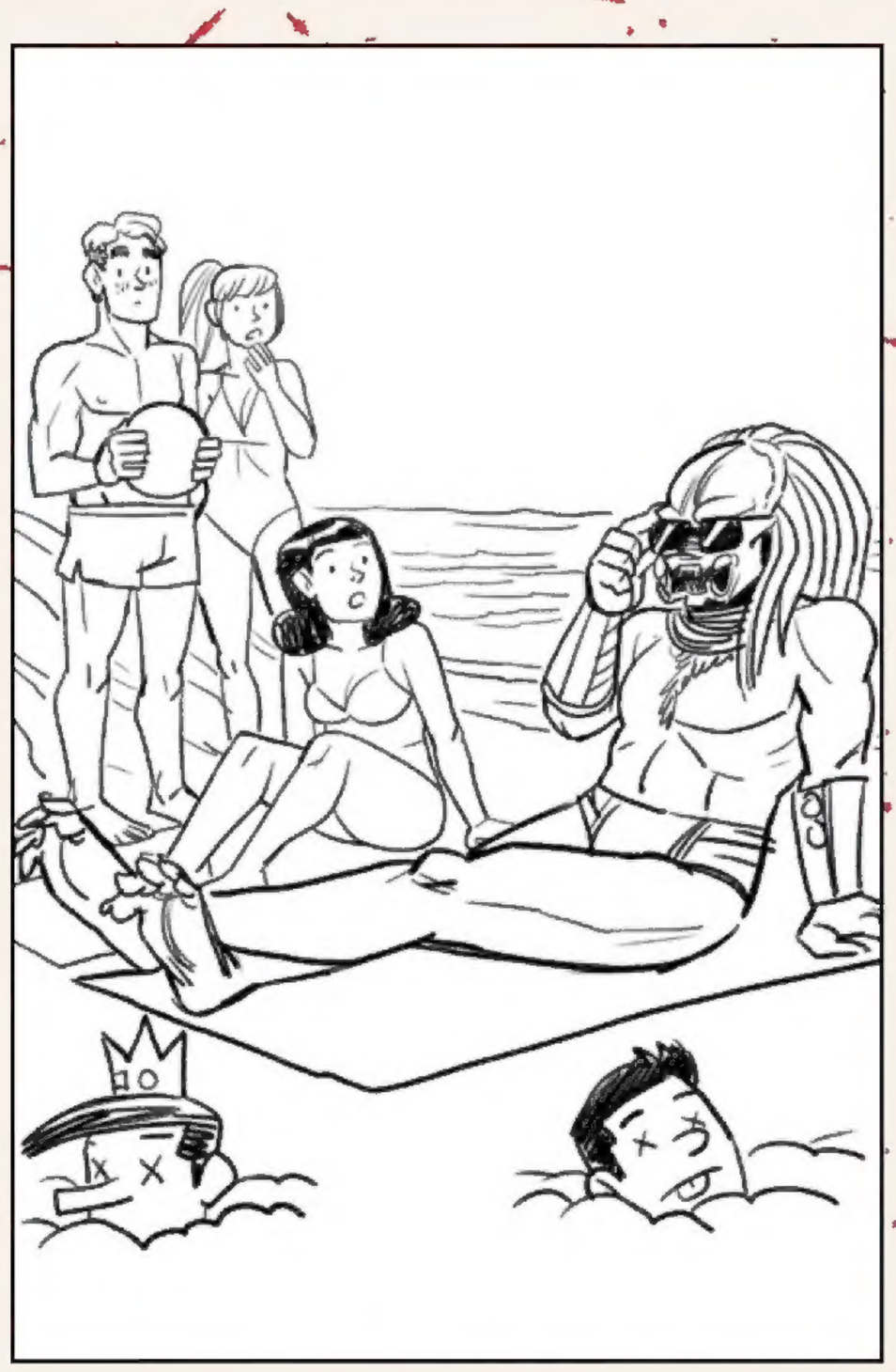


Concept for an issue #3 variant cover
GISÈLE

Concept for the issue #4 cover
ANDREW PEPOY

Concept for an issue #4 variant cover

FAITH ERIN HICKS



Concept for an issue #4 variant cover

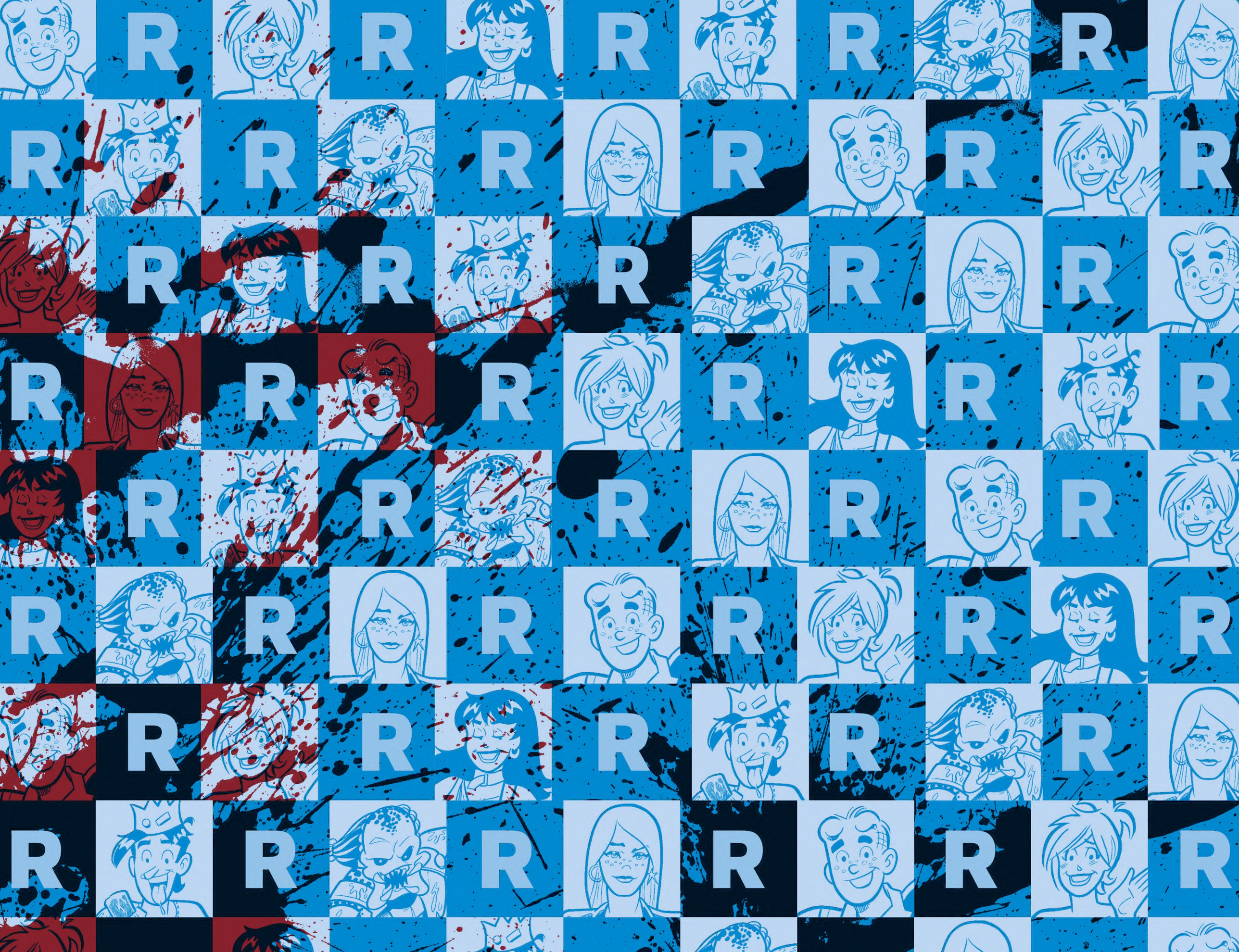
FAITH ERIN HICKS

Concept for an issue #4 variant cover

FAITH ERIN HICKS

Concept for the collection cover

FERNANDO RUIZ


R

AMERICA'S FAVORITE TEEN . . .
THE GALAXY'S DEADLIEST HUNTER . . .

When Archie and friends hit Costa Rica for Spring Break, party games and beach games are soon replaced by the Most Dangerous Game! Lured by the challenge of Betty and Veronica's unparalleled fierceness, a teenaged Predator from the stars follows the gang back to Riverdale, where it prepares for its most bizarre hunt ever, but will the kids even realize they're in danger before they end up in the creature's horrifying trophy case?!

Collecting issues #1–#4 of the smash hit *Archie vs. Predator*!

"A gift from God himself."
—Comic Book Resources

"Predator wreaking havoc through Riverdale and facing off against some of our favorite childhood characters is something too cool to miss out on!"
—Newsarama

"All fun all the time."
—Bloody Disgusting

"If you thought *Archie Meets the Punisher* was bizarre, you haven't seen anything yet."
—IGN

"The essence of what makes *Archie* comics work in conflict with what makes *Predator* work."
—Multiversity Comics

"The greatest mash-up that never should have happened! Fantastic!"
—SciFiPulse

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